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SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE COMBINED DISTRICTS

HENLEY BOROUGH
BICESTER URBAN DISTRICT
THAME URBAN DISTRICT
BULLINGDON RURAL DISTRICT
HENLEY RURAL DISTRICT
PLOUGHLEY RURAL DISTRICT

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR

1954

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PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

1954

SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE COMBINED DISTRICTS

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³ Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

⁴ Certificate of Liverpool University as Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

⁵ Also Engineer and Surveyor.

Sanitary Inspectors' Assistant:

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Clerical Staff:

Medical Officer of Health's Office: MRS. E. M. THOMPSON (part time)
MISS G. B. GENNER, M.A. (part time)

Henley Borough: MRS. K. LEWINGTON

Bicester Urban District J. BURR

Thame Urban District: R. E. OSBORN

Bullington Rural District L. W. CHARLTON

Henley Rural District: MISS M. E. BETTS

Ploughley Rural District: A. L. W. NOKES

THE JOINT COMMITTEE, 1954-55

BICESTER URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MR. S. A. WINTERBONE.

Deputy: MR. J. LEACH.

HENLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

The Mayor, Councillor F. A. C. BUDDINGTON.

Deputy: The Deputy Mayor, Councillor A. R. B. HOBBS.

THAME URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MR. B. N. RUST.

Deputy: MRS. E. K. BURBRIDGE.

BULLINGTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

MR. R. F. ROBERTS (*Chairman*).

MR. C. H. J. SHEPPARD, O.B.E.

*MR. R. C. SURMAN, J.P. (*Vice-Chairman*).

HENLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

SIR FELIX BRUNNER, BART.

MRS. M. E. MEDILL.

The REV. G. H. ST. A. OAKLEY.

PLOUGHLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

MR. P. I. BENHAM.

The REV. H. A. McCANN.

*ALDERMAN F. WISE.

* County Councillors.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1954

SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE COMBINED DISTRICTS

To the Mayor, Chairmen, Aldermen and Councillors of the Constituent Authorities.

My Lord, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I take pleasure in submitting hereunder my Annual Report on the state of the public health in the South Oxfordshire Combined Districts during 1954, incorporating the information required by Circular 28/54 of the Ministry of Health.

DISTRIBUTION

The Committee have agreed that one doctor in each firm of doctors practising in the area shall henceforth receive a copy of the annual report, a step which I most warmly welcome. This has been done without increasing the total number of copies printed, by limiting the distribution in the Combined Districts to Members of the Public Health Committees. Other Councillors who wish to see the report will be able to obtain access to it by applying to the Clerk to their Council who will have an extra reference copy.

ABBREVIATIONS

C.D. Combined Districts. E.W. England and Wales. L.A. Local Authority. The Ministry means the appropriate Ministry, i.e., The Ministry of Health or the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. M.O.H. Medical Officer of Health. R.D. Rural District. R.G. Registrar General. S.I. Sanitary Inspector. U.D. Urban District.

VITAL STATISTICS

(a) POPULATION. The home population of the Combined Districts as estimated by the Registrar General at mid-year 1954, showed an increase of 1668 on the 1953 figures, reaching the new high level of 102,010.

It will be seen that the increase was general throughout the districts with the exception of Ploughley which lost 680 of the increase of 1220 it had gained the previous year. This is probably largely due to adjustments in the military establishments within the district.

	Areas in Acres	Population	Compared with 1953	Density per Acre
Henley Borough ...	1,416	7,990	+ 70	5.64
Bicester U.D. ...	1,679	4,540	+ 165	2.70
Thame U.D. ...	3,140	3,710	+ 33	1.18
Bullington R.D. ...	91,618	37,640	+ 1590	.41
Henley R.D. ...	53,297	20,270	+ 490	.38
Ploughley R.D. ...	79,911	27,860	— 680	.35
TOTAL ...	231,061	102,010	+ 1668	.44

The total population is contained in just over 360 square miles, giving a density of 283 persons to the square mile, or .44 persons per acre, ranging from Henley Borough with a density of 5.64 persons per acre to Ploughley R.D. with .35 persons per acre.

(b) LIVE BIRTHS.

	Henley Bor- ough	Bices- ter U.D.	Thame U.D.	Bull- ingdon R.D.	Henley R.D.	Plough- ley R.D.	Combined Districts	
							Total	Live Birth Rate per 1000
Male	58	51	32	352	171	223	887	
Female	59	55	28	332	170	195	839	
TOTAL	117	106	60	684	341	418	1726	16.9

(Live Birth Rate per 1000: England and Wales 15.2)

(c) STILL BIRTHS

	Henley Bor- ough	Bices- ter U.D.	Thame U.D.	Bull- ingdon R.D.	Henley R.D.	Plough- ley R.D.	Combined Districts	
							Total	Per 1000 total (live & still) births
Male	1	—	—	2	4	2	9	
Female	1	—	3	6	3	6	19	
TOTAL	2	—	3	8	7	8	28	16.0

(Still Birth Rate per 1000 total births: England and Wales 23.4)

(d) DEATHS.

	Henley Bor- ough	Bices- ter U.D.	Thame U.D.	Bull- ingdon R.D.	Henley R.D.	Plough- ley R.D.	Combined Districts	
							Total	Per 1000 Popula- tion
Male	51	14	12	188	78	96	439	
Female	53	17	30	175	89	70	434	
TOTAL	104	31	42	363	167	166	873	8.6

(Death rate per 1000 population: England and Wales 11.3)

CAUSES OF DEATH AS CLASSIFIED BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL
IN THE COMBINED DISTRICTS AS A WHOLE

	Male	Female	Persons	As a per- centage of the total	Order of fre- quency	Death rate per 1000 population Combined Districts	England and Wales
1. Tuberculosis, respira- tory	3	4	7	.805	=18	0.07	0.16
2. Tuberculosis, other ...	2	—	2	.230	26	0.02	0.02
3. Syphilitic disease ...	1	2	3	.345	25	0.03	0.03
4. Diphtheria						Nil	0.00†
5. Whooping Cough ...						Nil	0.00†
6. Meningococcal infec- tions						Nil	0.01
7. Acute Poliomyelitis ...						Nil	0.00†
8. Measles						Nil	0.00†
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ...						Nil	0.02
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	17	10	27	3.105	9	0.27	0.32
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	21	5	26	2.990	10	0.26	0.37
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	1	16	17	1.955	12	0.17	0.19
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus... ..		6	6	.690	=21	0.06	0.09
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm...	56	36	92	10.580	4	0.92	1.02
15. Leukaemia, aleukae- mia	4	3	7	.805	=18	0.07	0.05
16. Diabetes	2	3	5	.575	=23	0.05	0.07
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	43	91	134	15.410	1	1.34	1.63
18. Coronary disease, an- gina	69	53	122	14.030	2	1.22	1.51
19. Hypertension with heart disease ...	5	11	16	1.840	13	0.16	0.27
20. Other heart disease ...	54	62	116	13.340	3	1.16	1.90
21. Other circulatory dis- ease	23	16	39	4.485	7	0.39	0.56
22. Influenza		1	1	.115	=27	0.01	0.04
23. Pneumonia	21	31	52	5.980	6	0.52	0.41
24. Bronchitis	17	12	29	3.335	8	0.29	0.58
25. Other diseases of res- piratory system ...	8	1	9	1.035	15	0.09	0.11
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	5	1	6	.690	=21	0.06	0.12
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	3	2	5	.575	=23	0.05	0.05
28. Nephritis and nephro- sis	1		1	.115	=27	0.01	0.12
29. Hyperplasia of pros- tate	8		8	.920	=16	0.08	0.10
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion						Nil	0.11
31. Congenital malforma- tions	3	5	8	.920	=16	0.08	0.10
32. Other defined and ill- defined diseases ...	37	52	89	10.235	5	0.89	0.90
33. Motor vehicle acci- dents	12	2	14	1.610	14	0.14	0.10
34. All other accidents ...	16	9	25	2.875	11	0.25	0.25
35. Suicide	7		7	.805	=18	0.07	0.11
36. Homicide and opera- tions of war						Nil	0.01
ALL CAUSES ...	439	434	873 (*653)	100.5 (*75.1)		8.6	11.3

*Cancer, heart disease and chest disease combined.

†A rate of 0.00 does not indicate that no deaths occurred (Nil being then the term) but only that the number of deaths was not significant to two places of decimals per thousand, i.e. less than 5 per million.

The causes of death table demonstrates at a glance that almost 45 per cent of the deaths in the Combined Districts during 1954 were from heart disease, that one death in five was due to some form of cancer and that one in ten occurred from diseases of the chest.

(e) MATERNAL MORTALITY

For the fifth time in the last six years no maternal death was recorded in the area. During this period, 1949-54 inclusive, the expected maternal deaths in the area, calculated on the rate for England and Wales, would be 8. The Combined Districts figure is 1. Put another way, while the average maternal mortality over the period in England and Wales was 0.80 per 1000 total (live and still) births, that for the Combined Districts was only 0.10. The maternal mortality rate in 1954 for England and Wales was 0.69 (per 1000 total—live and still—births).

(f) NEO-NATAL MORTALITY

Twenty-two deaths under four weeks were recorded in the area giving a neo-natal mortality rate of 15.2 per 1000 live births. The comparable rate for England and Wales was 17.7.

(g) INFANT MORTALITY

Thirty-eight deaths under one year were recorded in the area giving an infant mortality rate of 22.6 per 1000 live births. The comparable rate for England and Wales was 25.5.

(h) MORTALITY IN GENERAL

(1) MORTALITY AND THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

The annual death rate in England and Wales from all causes has been halved in the last century, falling from 22.7 per 1000 of the population in the five-years period 1851-55 to 11.3 in 1954.

A study of the Comparative Mortality Index table in the Registrar General's most recently published Statistical Review (that for 1953) shows that this decline is most sharply marked in the communicable diseases. Whereas deaths from heart disease are about stationary and the deaths from cancer have increased over the period, the death rate for Scarlet Fever has dropped from 1.9 to 0.006, for Diphtheria from 1.3 to 0.002, for Whooping Cough from 1.3 to 0.02 and for Measles from 1.1 to 0.02. Deaths from TB were $18\frac{1}{2}$ times as numerous in the period 1851-55 as they were in 1953. The Death Rates from Cholera, Typhus and Smallpox no longer exist—indeed Cholera and Typhus are now mere names this side of the Adriatic, and the death rate from Dysentery has dwindled due to advances in sanitation and chemotherapy to 0.0008 per 1000 of the population.* This remarkable improvement in the health outlook for the average man and woman must in large measure be due to the Medical Officers in the Public Health Service who, with the British genius for understatement, are not officially rated as medical men at all but only as 'Administrators with medical knowledge'! Perhaps (since we are on the subject of Mortality) a more apt title would be 'The Suicides Club' since by their very success they are cutting their own throats, with purposeful and rapid strokes.

* Figures recently obtained from the Registrar General show that the expectation of life at birth has risen from 40.19 years (Male) and 42.18 (Female), just over a century ago, to 67.30 and 72.44 in 1953.

(2) THE LOCAL PICTURE

The death rate of the Combined Districts for 1954 was slightly above that for 1953 (8.6 as compared with 8.4) whereas the England and Wales rate fell in the same period from 11.4 to 11.3 per 1000. But these changes are so small as to have virtually no statistical significance and it is gratifying to note that the Districts' rate keeps well below the Country's'. In only three conditions, leukaemia (a type of cancer), bronchitis and motor vehicle accidents, was the C.D. rate above the E.W. rate.

(i) PREVENTIBLE DEATHS

It is pertinent to enquire which of the 873 deaths listed in 1954 for the C.D. might have been prevented. Coronary Disease—14 per cent of the total? *Theoretically*, yes, for we know it to be largely the physical reflection of the mental and psychological stress engendered by the ever increasing speed, noise, complexity and anxiety of life in this nuclear epoch. But we cannot have it both ways and a return to an Arcadian rustic simplicity while diminishing such deaths would also diminish our standard of living. They are part of the price we must pay for a rather problematical 'progress'.

There *are* other deaths recorded, however, which might, without bouldersing the whole social structure, have been avoided, by health education, by improved housing, lessening of nerve-strain, prevention of the spread of infection—and by greater cleanliness and greater care over the storage and preparation of foodstuffs—those deaths caused by Tuberculosis, Syphilis, Ulcers of the Stomach and Duodenum, and bowel infections particularly in tiny children. Yet in aggregate these comprise no more than 2.6 per cent of the total, and I believe that until the cure for cancer is discovered we have virtually attained the limit of preventible deaths, the toll of the roads always excepted.

SUB-HEALTH—a flourishing industry.

While we are not dying as early as we used to, there is an ever increasing effort to persuade us that at all events we are more dead than alive. The fantastic array of purges, nerve-sedatives, tonics, concentrates, rejuvenators, smell-banishers, night-drinks, processed (often meaning devitalized and seldom meaning anything important) this, irradiated that and impregnated the other, shows that hypochondria is widespread and gullibility almost unlimited ('Meet our new managing director. He is tireless, odourless and packed with vitamins'. Thinks thanks to *Pluggo*).

The public enjoys sub-health; without it as a staple for gossip they would be confined to the weather. Ninety-five per cent of these expensive placebos could certainly be thrown into the river (on the blind side of the Conservators) with little result save, possibly, a rather queer taste to our drinking water. Palatable purgatives should be the first to go for they perpetuate the very ill they purport to cure—chronic constipation.

If I were asked for one simple rule which would improve the national health I would advise parents to insist that, from a very early age, their children went regularly to the lavatory each morning. The habit of regularity is just as easy to establish as the habit of constipation. The regular is seldom really ill, the constipated seldom really well. It is for this reason that I regard as a disaster the abolishing of the second lavatory in some council houses. *Of all possible economies I believe this to be the very worst* in that, with large families, some of the children will inevitably be unable to go to the lavatory before setting out for school, and the natural impulse engendered by breakfast will be suppressed and finally lost.

The habit of chronic constipation with its attendant sub-health—lassitude, dizziness, sick-headaches, halitosis, loss of appetite—can be set up in a surprisingly short time. Some vendors of purgatives in an attempt to rope in the entire nation even manage to suggest, by using such terms as concealed constipation or incomplete elimination, that though the victim may fondly imagine he is doing his daily duty, this is in reality only partly true. And (while we are in the lavatory) the advertising campaigns in favour of medicated toilet paper! Such products would not kill one germ in a thousand, and the only safeguard against transmission of intestinal diseases by the hands to the food and hence to other people remains a good wash with soap and hot water after defaecation.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES—other than Tuberculosis (see p. 12)

DISEASE	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter	Totals for Year	Incidence per 1000 population	
						S. Oxon Combined Districts	England and Wales
Scarlet Fever	26	19	15	6	66	0.65	0.97
Whooping Cough	136	49	57	45	287	2.81	2.39
Measles	3	17	3	5	28	0.27	3.46
Pneumonia	16	6	9	21	52	0.51	0.60
Meningococcal Infection	1	—	—	1	2	0.02	0.03
Diphtheria	4	—	—	2	6	0.06	†0.00
Poliomyelitis: Paralytic Non-Paralytic	—	—	2	—	2	0.02	0.03
	—	—	—	—	—	Nil	0.01
	TOTAL	—	2	—	2	0.02	0.05
Para-typhoid	1	—	—	—	1	0.01	0.01
Dysentery	6	14	3	9	32	0.31	0.72
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—	—	1	0.01	0.28
Food Poisoning	—	—	10	6	16	0.16	0.20
Erysipelas	2	2	—	6	10	0.10	0.12
TOTALS	196	107	99	101	503	4.93	*8.83

† A rate of 0.00 does not indicate that no case occurred (NIL being then the term) but only that the number of cases occurring was not significant to two places of decimals per thousand, i.e. less than 5 per million. In 1954, 176 cases of Diphtheria were confirmed in England and Wales in an estimated population of 44,274,000, giving a rate of 0.004 per 1,000 population.

* The E.W. overall total is slightly higher (8.85 per 1,000) as it contains cases of ophthalmia neonatorum, acute encephalitis—infective and post infectious—typhoid and typhus fevers no case of any of which was recorded throughout the C.D. in 1954.

In addition to the above, 3 cases of Malaria were notified. These, however, were all contracted abroad and came into the district only to be treated at Wheatley Military Hospital.

The total number of cases of Notifiable Diseases recorded in the C.D. during 1954 was under a sixth of those recorded in 1953. This was due chiefly to the enormous drop in Measles which is a biennial disease. (This is well shown by the fact that half-way through 1955 950 cases have already been recorded.)

In 1954 the C.D. rate for Notifiable Disease was only 56 per cent of that for E.W., and in only two conditions (Whooping Cough and Diphtheria) did the C.D. rate exceed that for E.W., whereas in 1953 the C.D. rate was 114 per cent of the E.W. rate and the local rate exceeded the general in Whooping Cough, Measles, Meningococcal infections and Food Poisoning.

DIPHTHERIA. The most alarming event in the C.D. during 1954 was an outbreak of Diphtheria in a London County Council administered residential school in the area.

A very large amount of work was done by Dr. Hemphill the school's medical officer, and Dr. Wood the bacteriologist of the Public Health Laboratory service at the Battle Hospital, Reading. The former was responsible for all the necessary immunizations and the treatment of the chronic carriers, whereas Dr. Wood made visits on a score of occasions and several times did a mass-swabbing (nose and throat) of all boys and staff. This, together with guinea-pig inoculations, to test the virulence or otherwise of the germ strains, involved an enormous amount of time and work. Dr. Anderson, the County Medical Officer, also gave his much appreciated help in the matter of diagnosis and at a conference held at the school with a medical representative from the L.C.C.

I understand that Drs. Hemphill and Wood will be publishing their findings in the medical press, nevertheless it should be stated here that it was in large measure due to their efforts that the outbreak was prevented from becoming an epidemic. I propose to make only the following comments.

1. The strain of Diphtheria germ was fortunately a very mild one, but there is no reason why it might not equally well have been the much more deadly *gravis* type.
2. Only six cases were confirmed, although ten were suspected. No deaths resulted and all the cases made a complete recovery, though one showed a temporary heart weakness.
3. The fatality rate in E.W., on the other hand, in 1954 was 5.1 per cent, the third highest figure since the start of the Mass Immunization campaign.

It is clear therefore that while Diphtheria may from time to time lie down it is not yet by any means dead, and there is* no excuse for any relaxation in the immunization campaign.

POLIOMYELITIS. A happier year than 1953, both in C.D. and E.W., perhaps because the weather was cooler and wetter than in 1953. Only two cases were notified in the C.D. (both paralytic), and there were no deaths. This reflected the pattern in the country as a whole, where the incidence rate dropped from 0.11 to 0.05 and the death rate from 0.01 to 0.00 per thousand of the population.

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION—A few facts.

During 1955 in 5,000,000 children in the U.S.A. who were given the Salk vaccine, 50 cases of Paralytic and 2 cases of Non-paralytic polio were confirmed. This gives an incidence of 0.01 and 0.0004 per 1000 ~~of the population~~ respectively, much lower than in non-immunized groups (cf. the E.W. figures for 1954, of 0.03 and 0.01). It was established that 44 of the 50 paralytic cases occurred in children all of whom had received material from one laboratory, and if these be excluded the incidence figure of paralytic poliomyelitis in immunized children is 0.0012 per 1000 population.

Clearly, then, if such a vaccine could be perfected it would be a very valuable instrument in the prevention of Poliomyelitis. Two dangers exist, however, and as a result of these the British government has abandoned the idea of trying out the Salk vaccine in its original form. The first danger is that although the Salk vaccine is a vaccine of dead germs so prepared that any possible residue of living infectious virus is undetectable by laboratory tests, this unfortunately does not mean that it is yet 100 per cent safe. The second danger is that we do not yet know how long such induced immunity lasts. Some authorities believe that 3 years is the outside limit but some think only a year. The commonest age for polio is in the first five years of life, but if an attack of polio were to be postponed, by repeated vaccinations, until the age of 25 then the risk of death is sharply increased, from 5 per cent in age-group 0-5 years to 20 per cent at the age of 25.

To summarize.

1. We know that the Salk vaccine enormously decreases the incidence of polio in vaccinated cases.
2. There is no guarantee that this vaccine is always 100 per cent safe.
3. We do not know how long the Salk immunity lasts or at what age it would be safe to discontinue the injections.

* The County Medical Officer for Oxfordshire (who has generously given me permission to reprint the histogram which appears on p. 20) points out that the present immunization figure among preschool children is dangerously low. Since 75% immunized is the safe figure in *any* population at risk, it will readily be seen from the histogram that a disastrous epidemic of diphtheria among children under 5 is all too possible. Our present immunity, indeed, is due much more to good fortune than to good immunization figures.

While, therefore, there is not as yet a vaccine as safe, as effective or as lasting as that used in Diphtheria immunization, great progress has been made and it can only be a matter of time before the remaining difficulties are overcome.

WHOOPING COUGH. There has been a gratifying reduction of 39 per cent in the incidence rate in the C.D. as compared with 1953. The drop throughout the country was 33 per cent. It is early yet to say whether this is a chance fluctuation or whether it represents the beginning of a steady decline due to the increasing use of inoculation.

FOOD POISONING. There were 16 cases notified from the three R.D.s, and none from the three U.D.s where owing to the density of the population cases might reasonably have been expected to be more frequent.

The 16 cases were confined to 7 families. In 3 families the agent was the common *Salmonella typhimurium*, due usually to mouse or rat infestation, in 1 the rare *Salmonella Bredenny* (source unknown) and in 1, *Salmonella Seftenberg*. It was thought that in this last case the germ, which was found in the family dog, had possibly been picked up in the pet-store from which the dog came. *S. Seftenberg* is found in tortoises and it is possible that the dog occupied a stall previously inhabited by a tortoise. The connection, however, could not be proved. In the remaining 2 outbreaks no causal organism was found. All the cases made a prompt and uneventful recovery.

I would like to draw attention to the special examination of tinned cream described by the S.I. of Henley Borough on p. 28. In this connection, the long lists of foods condemned by the S.I.s and destroyed show how carefully and constantly the public's food supplies are inspected. It is a great pity therefore that the most recent bill before parliament dealing with clean food has been so whittled away as to be virtually useless.

SMOKING. Evidence continues to accrue of the increased risk of respiratory cancer run by heavy smokers. Following the warning of the Ministry of Health Standing Advisory Committee on Cancer and Radio-Therapy there has followed (June 1955) from New York the report of three doctors of the Sloan-Kettering cancer research institute. According to these findings 'a direct relationship was found between the amount smoked and the "relative risk" of developing larynx cancer. Compared with the group who smoke 16 to 34 cigarettes a day, the man who smokes 1 to 15 cigarettes is 50 per cent less likely to develop cancer of the larynx and the *man who does not smoke at all is 90 per cent less likely to develop the disease*' (italics mine). 'The man who smokes more than 35 cigarettes runs twice the risk. Cigar and pipe smokers were found to run approximately the same risk as the smoker of 16 to 34 cigarettes.'

The investigators conclude, on the basis of this and past studies, 'that the present rates of lung and larynx cancer in American males probably would be *reduced by 80 per cent in the absence of smoking*' (italics again mine). (Quoted from *The Times*, June 7th, 1955.)

It was recently reported that the relationship between tobacco-smoking and the development of Coronary Thrombosis is being studied at the Radcliffe Infirmary.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA. The remarkable figures for 1952 and 1953 have been surpassed in 1954, the incidence rate in the C.D. being only one-twenty-eighth of the rate in E.W. (0.6 per 1000 total, live and still, births as compared with 17.7). This is a record of which we may be justly proud, and it reflects the greatest credit on everyone in the maternity service.

TUBERCULOSIS

The 1954 figures for the C.D. (see accompanying table) show a small increase in new cases over 1953 and a slightly raised incidence rate per 1000 population, though this incidence rate is still below 1 per thousand and below the E.W. rate. The C.D. death rate remains as for 1953 and is exactly half the E.W. rate which was itself the lowest ever recorded.

We need have no anxiety about the small increases in the C.D. new cases and incidence rates, for we are now so near rock bottom that one case more or less per annum makes a considerable difference in the annual rates.

I have this year discontinued the Mortality Rate in New Cases figure. It was found that of 6 cases dying within 12 months of notification, 4 proved from clinical and post-mortem evidence to have been infected for longer than 12 months.

Lung Tuberculosis, great white scourge of the last century, killer of such gay girls as La Dame aux Camèlias and La Traviata and convenient literary *exitus lethalis* of innumerable Victorian heroines, has now been so tamed as to become no more than a junior lieutenant to Osler's 'Captain of the Men of Death' (Pneumonia). But while it is no longer a formidable killer (indeed, diagnosed and treated early, it is now a highly curable disease), we must be in no danger of forgetting that it is still as infectious as ever, an expensive drag on the community, the source of great human unhappiness, a lowerer of living standards and a disrupter of family life. Fortunately housing committees are well aware of the paramount importance of good housing in the cure and the limitation of spread of T.B., and afford a large priority to such cases.

B.C.G. VACCINATION (Bacille Calmette-Guérin).

The Oxfordshire County Council, in accordance with the authorization of the Ministry, are now operating a scheme for the vaccination against Tuberculosis of the 13- to 14-year old group of children throughout the country, and I have most gratefully accepted the invitation to assist in this work.

TUBERCULOSIS 1954 AND 1953
SOUTH OXON COMBINED DISTRICTS

Type	Cases on register including cases and at end of the year					Transfers in		Transfers out and Minus recovered cases		Difference over the year	Incidence Rate per 1000 population				Death Rate	
				New cases							C.D.	England and Wales	C.D.	England and Wales	C.D.	England and Wales
Pulmonary	79 (74)	53=132 (57) (131)	47 (46)	7 = 54 (7) (53)	0.78 (0.74)	0.87 (0.93)	0.07 (0.07)	0.16 (0.18)					
Non-pulmonary	17 (18)	7 = 24 (6) (24)	7 (15)	2 = 9 (2) (17)	0.17 (0.18)	0.13 (0.13)	0.02 (0.02)	0.02 (0.02)					
TOTAL	96 (92)	60=156 (63) (155)	54 (61)	9 = 63 (9) (70)	0.95 (0.92)	1.00 (1.06)	0.09 (0.09)	0.18 (0.20)					

1953 figures in brackets

The vaccination involves a preliminary skin test which is painless. This is read after 72 hours. The positive reactors are referred to the Chest Clinic for further investigation if they so desire and the negative reactors (usually about 80 per cent of those skin-tested) are susceptible and are vaccinated forthwith. This vaccination is done with the attenuated, non-virulent strain of Tubercle bacillus perfected by Calmette and Guérin. This bacillus is incapable of producing tuberculosis in man but has the effect of raising the individual's resistance to active tubercle bacilli from other humans with whom he may come into contact.

Upwards of sixty million vaccinations are known to have been done throughout the world and there have been two deaths which are probably not directly attributable to the vaccination anyway. At all events this gives a standard of safety infinitely greater than any other immunizing process. The reaction is very slight and complications, save for a very occasional and passing inflammation of the axillary glands, are unknown. Six weeks after the vaccination a further skin test is done in order to ensure that the conversion to the resistant state has been brought about.

It is not claimed that B.C.G. vaccination gives 100 per cent immunity from Tuberculosis, but the immunity rate in vaccinated cases is between 80 and 95 per cent. The 13-year age group has been selected by the Ministry for the first mass vaccination in this country because it is at this age that the child's natural resistance to Tuberculosis begins to wane until at the age of sixteen or seventeen the danger of contracting the disease is at its height.

The scheme is, of course, entirely voluntary and parental consent is necessary before vaccination can take place. So far, the acceptance rate has been encouragingly high.

HOUSING

TABLE 1. Permanent housing.

407 permanent dwellings were erected throughout the district in 1954 by the six L.A.s, as against 2684 housing applications. By the end of the year the list of applicants had dropped slightly to 2624.

The average number of L.A. houses erected annually, post-war, is 284, but the average has risen in the past three years to 380 which, having regard to the labour force available, would appear to be around the maximum achievable at present.

565 permanent dwellings were erected in the area by private enterprise during 1954.

There was an increase of 7 per cent in L.A. building compared with 1953, and an increase of 92 per cent in private enterprise building, giving an overall increase of 44 per cent. The figures for each constituent authority may be obtained from the table.

Compared with 1953, 3 L.A.s have longer waiting lists and 3 have

HOUSING

TABLE 1—Permanent Housing

	1954 1953 figures in brackets			1954 expressed as a percentage of 1953				Post-war period (1945-1954)			Houses built per 1,000 popula- tion		
	Popula- tion	Number of housing applica- tions	Permanent Houses completed			Applica- tions for Council houses	Houses built by		Popula- tion (Mean Annual)				
			Local authority 1	Private building 2	Com- bined 1 and 2		Local Author- ity	Private Build- ing					
Henley Borough ...	7990	70 (160)	30 (36)	12 (18)	42 (54)	69	83	67	89	286	60	8294	42
Bicester U.D. ...	4540	353 (313)	42 (12)	3 (4)	45 (16)	113	350	75	281	232	19	4143	61
Thame U.D. ...	3710	125 (107)	10 (29)	3 (0)	13 (29)	117	34	—	45	135	23	3560	44
Bullington R.D. ...	37640	1200 (1100)	146 (101)	124 (69)	270 (170)	109	145	180	159	882	337	31568	39
Henley R.D. ...	20270	401 (453)	39 (62)	111 (62)	150 (124)	89	63	179	120	412	349	19431	39
Ploughley R.D. ...	27860	475 (551)	140 (139)	212 (142)	352 (281)	86	100	145	125	893	498	21107	66
S. Oxon Combined Districts	102010 (100342)	2624 (2684)	407 (379)	565 (295)	972 (674)	98	107	192	144	2840	1286	88103	47

HOUSING

TABLE 2—Moveable Dwellings

	Huts		Caravans		Huts and Caravans	
	In occupation 1954 and (in brackets) 1953	1954 Expressed As a percentage of 1953	In occupation 1954 and (in brackets) 1953	1954 Expressed as a percentage of 1953	In occupation 1954 and (in brackets) 1953	1954 Expressed as a percentage of 1953
Henley Borough 	40 (54)	74	48 (48)	100	88 (102)	86
Bicester U.D. 	0 (0)	—	2 (0)	—	2 (0)	—
Thame U.D. 	0 (0)	—	9 (7)	129	9 (7)	129
Bullington R.D. 	319 (334)	96	468 (458)	102	787 (792)	99
Henley R.D. 	139 (154)	90	195 (192)	102	334 (346)	97
Ploughley R.D. 	28 (68)	41	79 (76)	104	107 (144)	74
South Oxon Combined Districts 	526 (610)	86	801 (781)	103	1327 (1391)	95

shorter, and the general widow's cruse is still 98 per cent full. The total L.A. picture is of 7 per cent more houses and 2 per cent less applications. Any roseate dreams cherished by chronic applicants on this score will, however, be summarily damped by the recently announced brake on L.A. expenditure.

It is only reasonable to point out, on the other hand, that the environs of Oxford City (which furnish the bulk of the area's housing applicants) must be one of the most prosperous regions in the country. It is scarcely fair to expect an L.A. to provide subsidized houses for families where the weekly wage-pocket is frequently £20, and sometimes £30 and as soon as the problem of the down-payment has been ironed-out new schemes of private building should decimate the present housing-lists.

TABLE 2: Moveable dwellings

(a) HUTS:

Here things are at long last on the move. The Bullingdon R.D. hope, with an allocation of 200 houses at Dorchester and 130 houses building around the district, that the end of the hutted camps at Dorchester and Chalgrove is within sight. *This, from a public health point of view, is probably the most important single item contained in this report.*

(b) CARAVANS:

On this vexed question I am the subject of sharp and constant cross-fire. Almost daily I receive desperate complaints from caravan-dwellers saying that caravan-life is hell-on-earth and that if their health is to be saved they must be rehoused without delay. To offset this, I am indignantly rebuked by others who say that caravan-life is sheer heaven and that I have no business to write disparagingly of it. In this connection I quote the prophetic utterance of my predecessor, Dr. Davy, who wrote in his annual report to the C.D. for 1950:

'It must not be forgotten that past experience of sub-standard housing suggests that a proportion of caravan dwellers will develop a taste for this mode of living and will wish to continue it, just as some people who lived in "shacks" after the first World War preferred to stay where they were even when satisfactory houses became available.'

How right he was! And how can a plywood or sheet-metal box, 20 feet by 8 (and many are much smaller), without running-water—far less a bath or W.C., without drainage, often without electric light, be considered anything but sub-standard housing, no matter how gadgetted? What will these 'permanent homes' be like after twenty, or even ten, years? Will they still be wind and weather-proof, or will they and their inhabitants have become weary and worn and sad—not to mention warped?

The argument that they are better than ruinous country cottages or living in digs or jammed up with in-laws is an argument, not in favour of caravans, but for the building of a larger number of new houses.

SUMMARY: THE YEAR 1954 AS A WHOLE

with some comparisons

	COMBINED DISTRICTS						E.W. 1954 (Pro- vis- ional)
	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	Mean 1950- 1954	
LIVE BIRTH RATE per 1,000 population. TOTAL	17.1	15.8	16.4	16.4	16.9	16.6	15.2
Legitimate	16.2	14.9	15.8	15.5	16.1	15.7	
Illegitimate	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.9	
DEATH RATE per 1,000 population	10.1	10.1	9.1	8.4	8.6	9.3	11.3
STILL BIRTH RATE per 1,000 total (live and still) births TOTAL	22.2	15.3	13.1	17.3	16.0	16.7	23.4
per 1,000 legitimate total births Legitimate	20.1	16.4	13.2	17.8	15.0	16.5	
per 1,000 illegitimate total births Illegitimate	48.8	NIL	12.5	10.5	35.3	20.7	
MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE per 1,000 total (live and still) births	NIL	NIL	0.60	NIL	NIL	0.10	0.69
NEONATAL MORTALITY RATE Deaths under 5 weeks per 1,000 live births TOTAL	14.3	10.4	18.8	¹ 14.0	18.0	15.2	*17.7
Legitimate	13.7	11.0	18.4	13.5	18.2	15.1	
Illegitimate	25.6	NIL	25.3	21.3	12.2	16.5	
INFANT MORTALITY RATE Deaths in the first year of life TOTAL	22.0	16.9	27.9	² 23.1	22.6	22.4	*25.5
Legitimate	20.5	16.5	28.0	23.2	23.1	22.4	
Illegitimate	51.3	10.9	25.3	21.3	12.2	23.5	
NOTIFIABLE DISEASES RATE (Excluding Malaria and Tuber- culosis) per 1,000 population	7.4	20.2	8.2	31.7	4.9	14.6	8.9
TUBERCULOSIS Incidence per 1,000 population TOTAL	1.06	1.00	0.85	0.92	0.93	0.95	1.00
Pulmonary	0.83	0.80	0.75	0.74	0.76	0.78	
Non-Pulmonary	0.23	0.20	0.10	0.18	0.17	0.17	
Death Rate per 1,000 population TOTAL	0.19	0.15	0.11	0.09	0.09	0.13	0.18
Pulmonary	0.17	0.13	0.05	0.07	0.07	0.10	
Non-Pulmonary	0.02	0.02	0.06	0.02	0.02	0.03	
ILLEGITIMACY RATE Per 1,000 total births	5.2	5.9	4.8	5.7	4.8	5.3	4.5

* Per 1,000 *related* live births—i.e. births occurring not during the calendar year 1954, but during the twelve months in which the babies who died were themselves born.

¹ This figure was incorrectly given in the 1953 report as 13.4.

² This figure was incorrectly given in the 1953 report as 23.7.

The gloomy forebodings expressed at the end of my 1953 report have not materialized. Not only are we not annihilated but the prospect of peaceful co-existence, and perhaps even a gradual lifting of the iron curtain, seem better at the time of writing (July 1955) than at any time since the end of the war.

The critical year which has passed has been an outstandingly good one for the health of the Combined Districts. The birth rate was above the rate for the country, the death rate well below. The C.D. still-birth rate was only two-thirds of the national figure, and the maternal mortality was NIL for the fourth time in five years. The neonatal mortality rate is fractionally above the E.W. rate but not to the extent of increasing the number of expected deaths; the infant mortality rate is substantially lower than the E.W. rate. The notifiable diseases rate plummeted from the highest in five years to the lowest because of the biennial periodicity of measles, but we must expect a substantial increase in 1955. The incidence of Tuberculosis remains below 1 per 1000 of the population, with the pulmonary rate slightly below and the non-pulmonary rate slightly above their corresponding E.W. rates. The total and pulmonary T.B. death rates are both below their E.W. counterparts. The rise in illegitimacy has been checked with the rate now only 0.3 per cent above the national figure.

Viewing the five year-period as a whole the birth rate has shown no decided trend in the C.D., but the death rate has steadily declined. The other figures, with the exception of the Tuberculosis returns which are steadily improving, show no definite pattern either up or down. The prospects of the illegitimate child as compared with the legitimate, taken over the period, are definitely inferior. It is less likely to be born alive, less likely to survive the first four weeks, more likely to die in the first year of life.

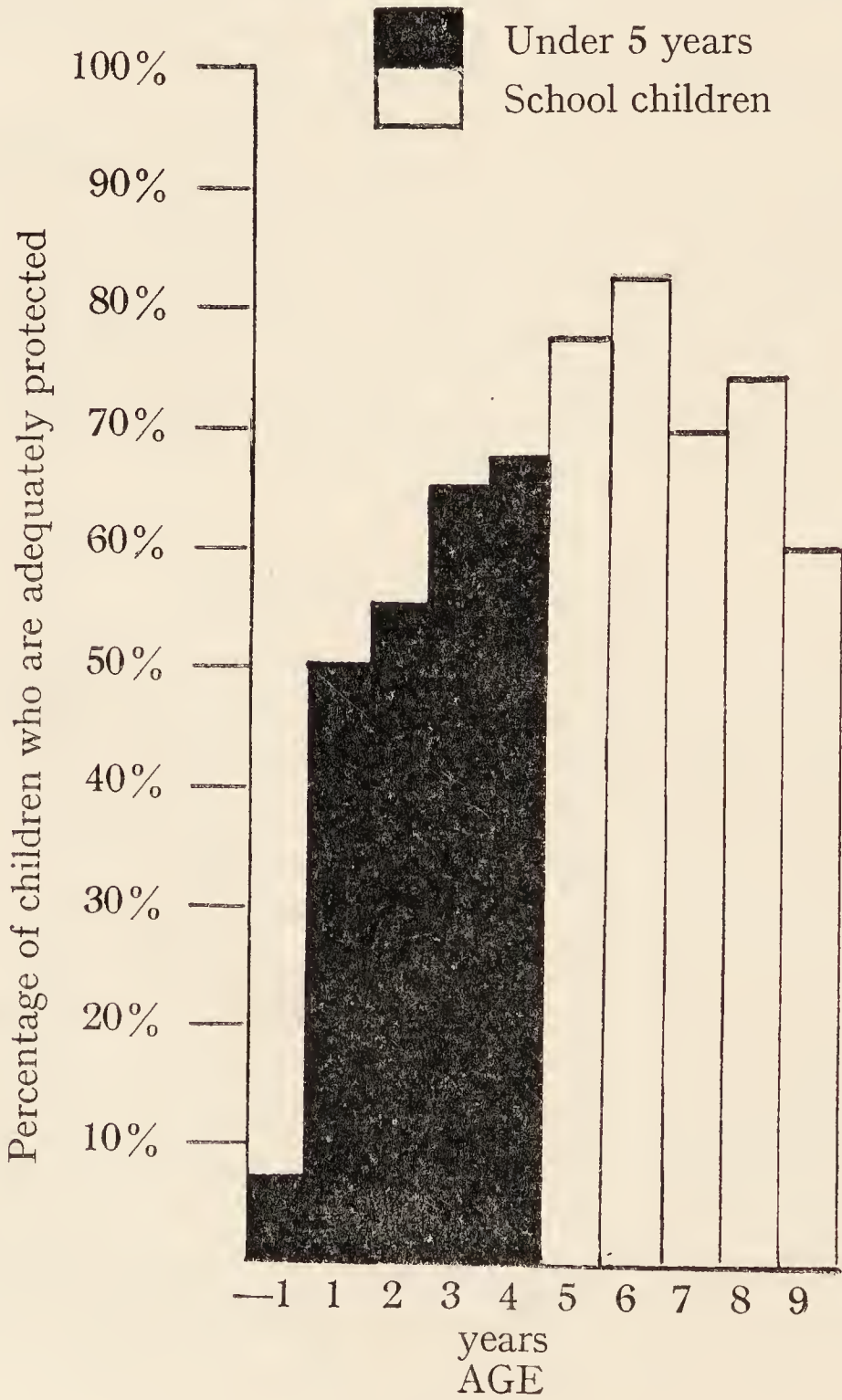
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Once again it gives me keen pleasure to record my debts of gratitude. First, to the Sanitary Inspectors. If I can find nothing very new to say of them, that does not mean I am not as aware as ever of the immense body of work they have put in, much of it unexciting, some of it frustrating, a lot of it unpleasant, all of it essential. The reports from the districts, which are very largely their work, speak for themselves. Mrs. Thompson and Miss Genner on the home ground have coped for another twelve months with my forgetfulness and untidiness (which takes some doing) and I know that when I am out in the districts the office is in safe hands. Dr. Bothwell has joined the county staff as Dr. Anderson's deputy and now I have two cheerful County Caledonian colleagues where one was before. Dr. Warin, Dr. Campbell and Dr. Parfit, M.O.s.H. for the City of Oxford, for the West Oxfordshire Combined Districts, and for Abingdon and Faringdon respectively have, as always, given me all the help I have asked. Dr. England, Dr. Black

and Mr. Jones at the Oxfordshire Chest Clinic and Dr. Harley Stevens, the Medical Superintendent of Peppard Chest Hospital, have furnished me with recommendations with which to belabour already hard-pressed housing committees, while Drs. Vollum, Jebb and Frisby from the Oxford Public Health Laboratory and Dr. Wood from Reading (see Diphtheria p. 9) are responsible for the innumerable bacteriological investigations without which an M.O.H. would be hamstrung. Finally I am indebted to an increasing number of medical practitioners in the area. Their interest and help has been much valued. I can only rather uneasily hope that this report, sent to them for the first time, will further this trend. But I am already in an attitude of defence against possible brickbats and have all my vital points covered.

I am,
Your obedient servant,
HECTOR MACKENZIE-WINTLE

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNIZATION 1954 (see footnote to p. 10)



MUNICIPAL BOROUGH OF HENLEY-ON-THAMES

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1416
Population:								
R.G.'s Mid-year Estimate (30.6.53) Home Population	...							7920
R.G.'s Mid-year Estimate (30.6.54) Home Population	...							7990
Census (1951)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7970
Number of Inhabited Houses (1953)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2426
(1954)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2468
Rateable Value (Current year)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£61180
Product of a Penny Rate (Current year)	...	...	...	...	...	...	(estimated)	£244

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND OCCUPATIONS

Besides the occupations common to most up-river Thames-side towns brewing and light engineering are carried on in the town.

EXTRACTS FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

BIRTHS

LIVE BIRTHS		Males	Females	Persons	Live Birth Rate (per 1000 of the home population)	
					Crude	Corrected
Henley-on-Thames						
Legitimate	...	57	55	112	14.0	
Illegitimate	...	1	4	5	0.6	
		<hr/>				
TOTAL	...	58	59	117	14.6	15.7
		<hr/>				
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	15.2	

STILL BIRTHS

		Males	Females	Persons	Still Birth Rate (per 1000 total births)	
Henley-on-Thames						
Legitimate	...	1	—	1	8.8	
Illegitimate	...	—	1	1	166.7	
		<hr/>				
TOTAL	...	1	1	2	16.8	
		<hr/>				
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	...	23.4

DEATHS

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES

		Males	Females	Persons	Death Rate (per 1000 of the home population)	
					Crude	Corrected
Henley-on-Thames		51	53	104	13.0	9.6
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	11.3	

CAUSES OF DEATH AS CLASSIFIED BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL

	Male	Female	Persons	As a per-centage of the total	Order of fre-quency
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	1	1	2	1.92	= 11
2. Tuberculosis, other ...					
3. Syphilitic disease ...					
4. Diphtheria ...					
5. Whooping Cough ...					
6. Meningococcal infections ...					
7. Acute Poliomyelitis ...					
8. Measles ...					
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ...					
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3		3	2.88	= 9
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	3		3	2.88	= 9
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	1	1	2	1.92	= 11
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus					
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm ...	5	8	13	12.48	2
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...		1	1	.96	= 17
16. Diabetes ...					
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	8	15	23	22.08	1
18. Coronary disease, angina ...	6	2	8	7.68	6
19. Hypertension with heart disease ...	1	3	4	3.84	= 7
20. Other heart disease ...	5	7	12	11.52	3
21. Other circulatory disease ...	1	1	2	1.92	= 11
22. Influenza ...					
23. Pneumonia ...	5	5	10	9.60	4
24. Bronchitis ...	2	2	4	3.84	= 7
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ...					
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	2		2	1.92	= 11
27. Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhoea ...	1	1	2	1.92	= 11
28. Nephritis and nephrosis ...					
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ...	1		1	.96	= 17
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...					
31. Congenital malformations ...					
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	4	5	9	8.64	5
33. Motor vehicle accidents ...	1		1	.96	= 17
34. All other accidents ...	1	1	2	1.92	= 11
35. Suicide ...					
36. Homicide and operations of war ...					
ALL CAUSES:	51	53	104 (*83)	99.8 (*79.7)	

* Cancer, heart disease and chest disease combined.

MATERNAL MORALITY

There were no deaths from puerperal causes during the year. In England and Wales the maternal mortality rate was 0.69 maternal deaths per 1000 total (live and still) births.

INFANT MORTALITY AND NEO-NATAL MORTALITY

There were 2 male deaths and one female death under one year. Of these, one male death and the single female death occurred in the first four weeks of life. All occurred in legitimately born children.

	per 1000 live births	England & Wales (per 1000 related live births*)
Infant Mortality Rate	25.6	25.5
Neo-natal Mortality Rate	17.1	17.7 (provisional figure)

SECTION B
GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES
FOR THE AREA

Laboratory Work. This is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Walton Street, Oxford, under the supervision of Dr. R. L. Vollum.

As the Public Health Laboratory at the Battle Hospital, Reading, is nearer to Henley than the Oxford Laboratory some practitioners prefer to send their specimens there, to be examined by Dr. Wood.

SECTION C
SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply. Water is supplied by the Henley-on-Thames Water Company, Limited, from two bore-holes, each sunk 200 feet into middle chalk. The one at Greys Road, Henley, is 8 inches in diameter, the other at Reading Road, Harpsden, is 12 inches in diameter. Both supplied are chlorinated and softened by the base exchange process from 19°-21° (Clark) to between 8° and 9° (Clark). Monthly samples taken for bacteriological examination have always demonstrated the water to be highly satisfactory.

Of the 2556 occupied dwellings (2468 houses, 40 huts and 48 caravans) 2551 have a piped main water supply (2478 direct into the dwelling and 73 to a stand pipe or sharing one) and 5 are dependent upon wells the water from which, in each case, is piped into the house.

Sewage Disposal. The majority of the houses in the town are connected to the public sewers as the table given below demonstrates.

The drainage of the town is arranged on the 'Separate System' (i.e. surface water and sewage are disposed of separately). Surface water is discharged directly into the River Thames through oil traps. Sewage is lifted to the sewage disposal works by Shone Ejectors operated by compressed air produced at the Lambridge Wood Pumping Station.

* Related live births are births occurring not during the calendar year 1954, but during the twelve months in which the babies who died were themselves born.

During the early part of the year sewage overflow occurred on the Fair Mile verge due to the severe weather conditions and to the failure of the ejectors to operate on several occasions.

The Council gave consideration to the electrification of the ejector stations on the existing sewerage system, negotiations proceeded and eventually the Ministry agreed in principle to the proposal, subject to certain conditions.

The Council instructed their Consulting Engineers to proceed with details concerning electrification and also to prepare detailed plans of the new sewage outfall works, on which the Minister had previously given his approval in principle.

It is expected that tenders will be invited for work on the new sewage outfall works during April 1955.

Summary of Closet Provision and Water Supply

Method of Sewage Disposal	Type of Water Supply		
	Well	Main Water	
		To stand pipe or sharing one	Piped into house
Chemical Closet	5	48	12
Pail Closet	—	—	—
Water Closet			
To main sewer	—	25	2391
To cesspool	—	—	75
TOTALS	5	73	2478

SECTION D
HOUSING

New Construction since 1945

(a) By the Council

	Houses				Bungalows 2 Bedroom Type	Flats 2 Bedroom Type
	Bedrooms			Prefabs		
	2	3	4			
Total constructed 1945—53	4	148	18	34	16	32
Number completed during 1954	4	16	—	—	—	—
Number under con- struction at 31.12.54 (See page 25)	16	14	—	—	6	—
Total completed and under construction ...	24	178	18	34	22	32

(b) *By Private Enterprise*

Since 1945 60 houses have been built by private enterprise and 4 were under construction at December 31st, 1954.

Housing Needs of the Borough. It is estimated that a further 70 houses are required to satisfy the present demand for accommodation.

Huts and caravans. At the close of the year the Council was in control of three sites on which were 40 ex-service huts converted for use as temporary houses.

On a privately owned site there are 48 caravans occupied as dwellings.

Housing Development

Abraham's Site. During the year work began on the erection of the first 56 houses on this site, and at the end of the year 30 houses had been erected and occupied. Further development on this site consisting of 2 and 3 bedroomed houses and bungalows is planned.

Inspections made, Notices Served and Orders made

	Under the Public Health Act, 1936	Under the Housing Act, 1936
Inspections Made	350	112
<i>Notices Served</i>		
(a) Informal	38	28
(b) Statutory	3	1
<i>Orders Made</i>		
(a) Closing Order	—	—
(b) Demolition Order	—	1
(c) Undertaking Given under Section 11 Hous- ing Act, 1936	—	—

Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954

This Act came into operation in August 1954 and further responsibilities are now placed on Local Authorities in regard to the submission of proposals to the Minister in reference to clearance areas.

It is significant that once again 'clearance area' work will be resumed throughout the country, and, arising from a survey which is now practically completed, it is hoped to present to the Council the results of this survey, early 1955, so that any proposals confirmed by the Council may be submitted to the Minister of Housing and Local Government by the stipulated date August 30th, 1955 in accordance with Circular 55/54 and the provisions of the Act.

SECTION E

FOOD INSPECTION

Meat. The de-rationing of meat during 1954 brought slight changes in administration. A large proportion of the slaughtering for this district is carried out at the Reading Abattoir, but on de-rationing the

Council licensed two former slaughterhouses, and at one of these premises slaughtering is carried out regularly on a small scale as the table below illustrates:

Carcases Inspected and Condemned—Period 1st July—31st December, 1954						
	Cattle ex- clud- ing cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
No. killed (if known)	—	—	22	61	39	122
No. Inspected	—	—	22	58	39	119
All diseases except Tuberculosis						
1. Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	3	3
3. % No. inspected affected with disease other than Tuber- culosis	—	—	—	—	7.6	2.5
Tuberculosis only						
1. Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. % No. inspected affected with Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—

Ice Cream. Premises where ice cream is sold or manufactured have been inspected regularly throughout the year. Samples of ice cream have been taken and submitted for routine bacteriological examination. The table shows the results of these examinations.

<i>Grade</i>	1	2	3	4	<i>All Grades Total</i>
No. of samples	8	1	1	1	11
Percentage	73	9	9	9	100

No. of premises registered for the sale and manufacture of ice cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
(a) No. of persons using cold mix method	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
(b) No. of persons carrying out heat treatment (Ref. Ice Cream Heat Treatment Regulations, 1947-52)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
No. of premises registered for sale of ice cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40

Food Poisoning. No cases of Food Poisoning were notified during the year.

Food Inspected and Condemned. The following foodstuffs were condemned as unfit for human consumption and voluntarily surrendered.

Beef	...	...	...	334 lb.	Canned Milk	...	...	19 tins
Pork	...	...	...	48 lb.	Canned Soups	...	...	3 tins
Pig's Plucks (liver, heart and lungs)	...	...	...	66 lb.	Canned Vegetables	...	...	19 tins
Pig's liver	...	...	...	4 lb.	Canned Ham	...	...	82 lb.
Fish (various)	...	...	...	4 stone	Corned Beef	...	...	9 tins
Canned Fish	...	...	...	6 tins	Other canned meats	...	...	26 tins
Canned Fruit	...	...	...	49 tins	Raisins	...	...	30 lb.

Milk and Dairies Regulations

No. of Registered Distributors with dairy premises within the Borough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
No. of Registered Distributors with dairy premises outside the Borough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
No. of Dealer's licences granted for Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
„ „ „ „ Pasteurized Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
„ „ „ „ Sterilized Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ „ „ „ Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ „ „ „ Pasteurized Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

Milk Sampling. Milk (Special Designations) Regulations

17 samples of 'designated' milk were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for routine statutory examination, with the results as follows:

	Total Taken	Satisfied Methylene Blue Test	Satisfied Phos-phatase Test	Satisfied Turbidity Test	Failed Methylene Blue Test	Failed Phos-phatase Test
Pasteurised Milk	9	6	8	—	2 & 1 void	1
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurized)	7	6	7	—	1 void	—
Sterilized	1	—	—	1	—	—
Totals	17	12	15	1	2 & 2 void	1

Food Premises. During the year 136 inspections were made of food premises in the Borough. In certain instances works of cleansing, improvement of existing washing facilities, or works necessitating repair to food preparation or storage rooms have been carried out.

(1) No. of food premises according to type of business, as at 31.12.54:

Butcher's Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Confectionery premises (cakes, bread, etc.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Grocery premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Fishshops (including Fish Friers)	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Hotels, Cafes, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Mixed General Shops (other than Grocers, and including sweet shops)	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	132

Food Hygiene. As in 1953, personal contact was deemed to be the best method of promoting a better understanding on food hygiene matters. It was found advisable to circularize extracts from the Council's Byelaws relating to clean food. More use could be made of existing facilities, particularly washing facilities, wherever practicable, during business hours.

Special Examination of Food. Details concerning samples of Tinned Cream—with special reference to press and wireless notice, February 1954.

Arising from information given over the wireless and in the national press of certain unfit tins of Cream, and the possibility of the spread of disease through consuming this cream, it was deemed advisable to carry out an investigation to ascertain if supplies of this brand of cream were stocked by grocers in the Borough.

All grocers were contacted and at one shop 35 tins of Cream were withheld from sale pending further examination.

Samples of the cream were sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Oxford, for bacteriological examination with results as follows:

Date Sample sent							
16.2.54	1 Tin	Cream (Normal)	—Batch No. 077308	—Sterile			
16.2.54	„ „	„ (Blown)	„ „ „	—Aerobic Spore bearing organisms, isolated			
16.2.54	„ „	„ (Normal)	„ „ „	—Sterile			
25.2.54	2 Tins	„ (Normal)	„ „ „	—Sterile			
25.2.54	3 Tins	„ (Blown)	„ „ „	—Aerobic Spore bearing Organisms, isolated			
25.2.54	1 Tin	„ (Slightly Blown)	„ „ „	—Sterile			

The results of these bacteriological examinations were conveyed to the Ministry of Health. The remainder of the tins in the consignment concerned were returned via wholesale channels for ultimate destruction in accordance with arrangements made in conjunction with the wholesalers.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938

Inspections made of Premises (Section 13) ...	...	...	...	...	136
Informal Notices Served ...	...	...	...	...	16
Informal Notices completed by 31.12.54 ...	...	...	...	...	16
Statutory Notices Served ...	...	...	...	...	—

SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Diseases notified during the year, other than Pulmonary Tuberculosis

				Number of cases notified		
				Male	Female	Total
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	29	31	60
Measles ...	...	...	...	—	1	1
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	...	...	...	—	1	1
TOTAL				30	33	63

TUBERCULOSIS

	New Cases		Transfers into the district		Transfers out of the district and patients classified as recovered		Died	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Pulmonary	2	7	—	3	1	1	1	1
Non-Pulmonary	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
TOTAL ...	2	8	—	3	1	2	1	1

FACTORIES ACTS 1937-1948

(a) Inspection of Factories

	Number in Register	Inspec-tions made	Written Notices served	Occupiers Prose-cuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 apply ...	13	9	3	—
2. Factories in which Section 7 applies ...	44	47	5	—
3. Other premises ...	10	4	—	—
TOTAL ...	67	60	8	—

(b) *Cases in which defects were found*

Defect	Number found	Referred by H.M. Inspector	Number remedied
Want of Cleanliness	3	—	3
Sanitary Conveniences—			
(a) Insufficient	2	1	2
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	3	1	3
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to outwork) ...	1	—	1
TOTAL	9	2	9

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949

Report for the 12 month period ending 31st March, 1955

	Type of Property				
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agri-cultural	All other (including business premises)	Total
No. of properties inspected by the Local Authority during the 12 month period ended 31.3.55, as a result					
(a) of notification	—	18	—	5	23
(b) survey under the Act,	8	64	—	25	97
and (c) otherwise, e.g. when visited primarily for another cause	—	130	6	55	191
No. of properties inspected which were found to be infested by rats	— major	—	—	—	—
	2 minor	10	—	1	13
No. of properties which were found to be seriously affected by mice	— major	—	—	—	—
	— minor	10	—	3	13
No. of infested properties treated by Local Authorities	2	17	—	1	20
No. of notices served under Section 4					
(i) Treatment	—	—	—	—	—
(ii) Structural works (e.g. proofing, etc.)	—	—	—	—	—

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948—SECTION 47
NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT 1951

No action was taken under these acts during the year.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK DURING THE
YEAR 1954

Summary of Inspections (including revisits)

(a)	House Inspection.	Under Public Health Act	...	475
		Under Housing Act	...	142
		Miscellaneous visits	...	111
(b)	General Sanitation.			
	Accumulations	...	...	14
	Drainage	...	...	146
	Factories	...	...	60
	Shops	...	...	10
	Moveable Dwellings	...	...	128
	Rodent Control	...	...	258
	Piggeries	...	...	4
	Smoke Observations (informal)	...	...	8
	Miscellaneous visits	...	...	95
(c)	Food Premises.			
	Bakehouses	...	...	15
	Butcher's Shops	...	...	15
	Dairies	...	...	23
	Fish Shops and Fish Friers	...	...	9
	Grocers' Premises	...	...	49
	Hotels, cafés, restaurants, etc.	...	...	17
	Ice Cream premises	...	...	20
	Visits to food premises <i>re</i> unsound food	...	...	41
	Licensed Premises	...	...	8
	Visits to slaughterhouses <i>re</i> meat inspection	...	...	33
	Miscellaneous visits	...	...	95
(d)	Infectious Disease.			
	Inquiries and visits	...	...	17
	Premises disinfected	...	...	6
	Miscellaneous visits	...	...	65
(e)	Rag Flock Act.			
	Routine visits	...	...	4
(f)	Notices.			
	No. of complaints received	...	...	145
	No. of informal notices served	...	...	82
	No. of statutory notices served	...	...	4

Summary of work carried out and Nuisances abated

Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Bakehouses cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Chimneys repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Internal plasterwork renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Windows repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
External brickwork pointing renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Floors repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Rainwater pipes and eaves gutters repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Flushing cisterns renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
W.C. Pans renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Yard paving renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Fireplaces or ranges repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Lavatories cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Yards cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Choked drains cleared	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Preparation and Store Rooms (Food premises) cleansed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Miscellaneous items dealt with	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

SECTION A

Area in Acres	1679
Population:							
R.G.'s Mid-year Estimate (30.6.53) Home Popu- lation	4375
R.G.'s Mid-year Estimate (30.6.54) Home Popu- lation	4540
Census (1951)	4171
Number of Inhabited Houses (1953)					1160
(1954)					1205
Number of Families or separate occupiers (1953)					1220
(1954)					1265
Rateable Value	£24304
Product of a Penny Rate	£92 10 0

Bicester is a market town in the midst of a predominantly agricultural area. The principal occupation is therefore agriculture although the largest single employer of labour from the town is the Base Ordnance Depot nearby in the Ploughley Rural District.

LIVE BIRTHS

		Males	Females	Persons	Live Birth Rate (per 1000 of the home population)	
					Crude	Corrected
Bicester						
Legitimate	...	50	53	103	22.7	
Illegitimate	...	1	2	3	0.6	
		<hr/>				
TOTAL	...	51	55	106	23.3	21.7
		<hr/>				
England and Wales		...	...	...	...	15.2

		Males	Females	Persons	Still Birth Rate (per 1000 total births)
Bicester					
Legitimate	...	—	—	—	
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—	
		<hr/>			
TOTAL	...	—	—	—	Nil
		<hr/>			
England and Wales
					23.4

DEATHS

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES

	Males	Females	Persons	Death Rate (per 1000 of the home population)	
				Crude	Corrected
Bicester	14	17	31	6.8	7.0
England and Wales	11.3	

CAUSES OF DEATH AS CLASSIFIED BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL

	Male	Female	Persons	As a per-centage of the total	Order of frequency
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ...					
2. Tuberculosis, other					
3. Syphilitic disease		1	1	3.23	=7
4. Diphtheria					
5. Whooping Cough					
6. Meningococcal infections ...					
7. Acute Poliomyelitis					
8. Measles					
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases					
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach			8	3.23	25.84
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus					
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast		1			
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus		1			
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm	3	2	5	16.15	=1
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...	1	1	2	6.46	=6
16. Diabetes					
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system		3	3	9.69	=4
18. Coronary disease, angina ...	1	2	3	9.69	=4
19. Hypertension with heart disease	1		1	3.23	=7
20. Other heart disease	3	2	5	16.15	=1
21. Other circulatory disease ...	1		1	3.23	=7
22. Influenza					
23. Pneumonia	1		1	3.23	=7
24. Bronchitis		1	1	3.23	=7
25. Other diseases of respiratory system			2	6.46	
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1				
27. Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhoea	1		1	3.23	=7
28. Nephritis and nephrosis ...					
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ...					
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion					
31. Congenital malformations ...		1	1	3.23	=7
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	1	3	4	12.92	3
33. Motor vehicle accidents ...					
34. All other accidents					
35. Suicide					
36. Homicide and operations of war					
ALL CAUSES:	14	17	31 (*22)	100.1 (*71.0)	

* Cancer, heart disease and chest disease combined.

MATERNAL MORTALITY

There were no deaths from puerperal causes during the year. In England and Wales the maternal mortality rate was 0.69 maternal deaths per 1000 total (live and still) births.

INFANT MORTALITY AND NEO-NATAL MORTALITY

There were 2 deaths (1 male, 1 female) under one year, the male of which occurred in the first four weeks of life. Both occurred in legitimately born children.

			(per 1000 related live births)
Infant Mortality Rate	...	...	18.9 (25.5)*
Neo-natal Mortality Rate	...	...	9.4 (17.7 provisional)*

SECTION B
GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES
FOR THE AREA

Laboratory Work. This is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Walton Street, Oxford, under the supervision of Dr. R. L. Vollum.

SECTION C
SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply. The Town's consumption has increased rapidly over recent years and at the present demands are being met by supplies from the Council's Headworks and the Buckingham Road Borehole. Further supplies will be made available from Heyford for new housing development.

Application is being made for increased storage accommodation.

Thirteen bacteriological tests and four chemical examinations were made during the year and were satisfactory.

Of the 1205 occupied houses in the town, 1196 have a piped main water supply (1148 direct into the house and 48 to a stand pipe) and 9 are dependent upon wells.

Sewage Disposal. The construction of the new Sewage Disposal works and outfall sewer is proceeding.

Method of Sewage Disposal			Type of Water Supply		
			Well	Main Water	
				To stand pipe	Piped into house
Chemical Closet	...	...	—	8	—
Pail Closet	...	...	9	—	—
Water Closet					
To main sewer	...	...	—	40	1148
To cesspool	...	...	—	—	—
TOTAL	...	...	9	48	1148

* Figures in parentheses are for England and Wales 1954. See footnote on p. 23.

SECTION D
HOUSING

New Construction since 1945

(a) By the Council

	Houses			Flats		Bungalows	
	Bedrooms			Bedrooms		Bedrooms	
	2	3	4	1	2	1	2
Total completed 1945-1953 ...	26	146	—	—	—	—	—
Number completed in 1954 ...	20	10	4	—	—	4	4
Number under construction at 31.12.54	30	74	2	24	4	—	—
Total completed and under construction	76	230	6	24	4	4	4

(b) By Private Enterprise. Since 1945 19 houses have been erected by private enterprise. At 31.12.54 a further 8 were under construction.

Housing List. At 31.12.54 live applications for Council houses numbered 353.

Caravans. Two caravans were licensed during the year 1954.

Inspections made, Notices served and Orders made

	Under the Public Health Act, 1936	Under the Housing Act, 1936
Inspections made	179	50
Notices served		
Informal	83	41
Statutory	—	—
Orders made	—	—

SECTION E
FOOD INSPECTION

Meat. Slaughtering is carried out centrally at Banbury and inspection in the town is limited to cases of animals slaughtered as casualties.

Food Poisoning. There were no cases of food poisoning notified during the year.

<i>Food inspected and condemned.</i>						lbs.	tins
Meat (Abscessed)						84	
,, (Putrid through poor storage)						153½	
Canned Meat (Blown)						22	4
,, Ham (Blown cans)						1	
,, Milk							5
,, Fish							8
,, Soup							1
,, Vegetables							11
,, Fruit							12

SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Diseases notified during the year, other than Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

					Number of cases notified		
					Male	Female	Total
Whooping Cough	—	2	2
Totals	—	2	2

TUBERCULOSIS

	New Cases		Transfers into the district		Transfers out of the district and patients classified as recovered		Died	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Pulmonary	—	2	1	2	1	1	—	—
Non-Pulmonary	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	—	2	1	2	1	1	—	—

FACTORIES ACTS 1937-1948

(a) *Inspection of Factories*

	No. on Register	Inspections made	Written Notices served	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 apply ...	9	23	—	—
2. Factories in which Section 7 applies ...	17	34	—	—
3. Other premises ...	—	—	—	—

(b) *Cases in which defects were found*

Defect	Number found	Number remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Want of Cleanliness ...	6	6	—
Ineffective drainage of floors ...	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective sanitary conveniences ...	1	1	—
TOTAL ...	7	7	—

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948—SECTION 47
NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT 1951

No action was taken under these acts during the year.

RODENT CONTROL

Type of Premises	Rats	Mice	Properties inspected on notification	No. inspected otherwise	No. of Properties Treated
L.A. Properties	3	1	1	12	4
Dwelling houses	7	—	8	16	7
Business Properties ...	1	—	1	2	1
Agricultural Properties	1	—	2	2	1

SUMMARY OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK DURING
THE YEAR 1954

Number of different premises visited	...	...	...	...	253
Number of inspections made	...	...	...	...	401
Number of complaints received	...	...	...	...	130
Number of defects or nuisances discovered	...	...	...	...	75
Number of notices served (informal)	...	...	...	...	91
Number of notices served (statutory)	...	...	...	...	—
Number of prosecutions	...	...	...	...	—

NUMBER OF DEFECTS OR NUISANCES ABATED

As to Privies, W.C.s, sink-wastes, etc.	...	...	...	...	51
As to Drains or Cesspools	...	...	...	...	75
As to Pigs or other animals	...	...	...	...	2
As to Cowsheds, Dairies and Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	—
As to Deficient or impure water	...	...	...	...	1
As to Unclean houses	...	...	...	...	2
As to Overcrowded houses	...	...	...	...	—
As to Polluted ditches or streams	...	...	...	...	7
As to Insanitary accumulations or deposits	...	...	...	...	7
As to other defects or nuisances	...	...	...	...	3
Number of premises disinfected	...	...	...	...	8
Number of water samples taken for analysis	...	...	...	...	4
“ “ “ “ bacteriological report	...	...	...	...	13
Number of wells closed	...	...	...	...	—
Number of wells cleansed, repaired or deepened	...	...	...	...	—
Number of new wells sunk	...	...	...	...	—

Number of houses connected with the water mains (new houses)	42
Number of water certificates granted	—
Number of seizures or surrenders of unsound or diseased food	72
Number of Conservancy closets replaced by W.C.s	—
Canal Boats on Register	—
Common Lodging Houses on Register	—
Milkshops on Register	4
Milkshops, number of inspections	17
Cowsheds and dairy farms on Register	1
Cowsheds, number of inspections	6
Slaughterhouses, number on Register (for pigs)	3
Slaughterhouses, number of inspections	52
Piggeries, number of inspections	6

URBAN DISTRICT OF THAME

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3140
Population								
R.G.'s Mid-year Estimate (1953) Home Population	...							3677
R.G.'s Mid-year Estimate (1954) Home Population	...							3710
Census (1951)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3585
Number of Inhabited Houses (1953)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1175
" " " (1954)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1188
Number of Families or separate occupiers (1953)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1209
" " " (1954)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1222
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£21237
Product of a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£85

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND OCCUPATIONS

The town is an agricultural centre with a large weekly market. There are, in addition, light engineering works and a large laundry.

EXTRACTS FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR
BIRTHS

LIVE BIRTHS

		Males	Females	Persons	Live Birth Rate (per 1000 of the home population) Crude Corrected	
Thame						
Legitimate	...	32	24	56	15.1	
Illegitimate	...	—	4	4	1.1	
TOTAL	...	32	28	60	16.2	16.7
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	15.2	

STILL BIRTHS

		Males	Females	Persons	Still Birth Rate (per 1000 total births)	
Thame						
Legitimate	...	—	2	2	3.4	
Illegitimate	...	—	1	1	200.0	
TOTAL	...	—	3	3	47.6	
England and Wales	23.4	

DEATHS

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES

	Males	Females	Persons	Death Rate (per 1000 of the home population)	
				Crude	Corrected
Thame	12	30	42	11.3	9.7
England and Wales ... ..	...	...	...	11.3	

CAUSES OF DEATH AS CLASSIFIED BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL

	Male	Female	Persons	As a per-centage of the total	Order of fre-quency
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ...					
2. Tuberculosis, other					
3. Syphilitic disease					
4. Diphtheria					
5. Whooping Cough					
6. Meningococcal infections ...					
7. Acute Poliomyelitis					
8. Measles					
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases					
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	1	2	4.76	= 7
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus		1	1	2.38	=10
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast		4	4	9.52	4
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus					
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm	2	1	3	7.14	= 5
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...					
16. Diabetes		1	1	2.38	=10
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system		10	10	23.80	1
18. Coronary disease, angina ...	2	4	6	14.28	2
19. Hypertension with heart disease		1	1	2.38	=10
20. Other heart disease	3	2	5	11.90	3
21. Other circulatory disease ...	1	1	2	4.76	= 7
22. Influenza					
23. Pneumonia		2	2	4.76	= 7
24. Bronchitis					
25. Other diseases of respiratory system					
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1		1	2.38	=10
27. Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhoea					
28. Nephritis and nephrosis ...					
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ...	1		1	2.38	=10
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion					
31. Congenital malformations ...					
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	1	2	3	7.14	= 5
33. Motor vehicle accidents ...					
34. All other accidents					
35. Suicide					
36. Homicide and operations of war					
ALL CAUSES:	12	30	42 (*34)	100.0 (*80.9)	

* Cancer, heart disease and chest disease combined.

MATERNAL MORTALITY

There were no maternal deaths during the year.

INFANT MORTALITY (Deaths under one year)

NEO-NATAL MORTALITY (Deaths under four weeks)

One male death in the first four weeks of life was recorded in a legitimately born child. This gives an Infant Mortality rate of 16.67 and a Neo-Natal Mortality rate of 16.67. The rates for England and Wales for 1954 were, respectively

Maternal: 0.69 per thousand total (live and still births)

Infant: 25.5 per thousand *related live births

Neo-Natal: 17.7 per thousand *related live births (Provisional figure).

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES
FOR THE AREA

Laboratory Work. This is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Walton Street, Oxford, under the supervision of Dr. R. L. Vollum.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply. The Thame Water Supply was installed in 1904. The source is from Upper Green Sand and Portland Beds on Kimmeridge Clay, and the water is lifted through a 10-inch Borehole sunk 60 feet below ground level.

During the year 1949 two new 12-inch Boreholes were sunk into the same strata at a distance of approximately 150 feet from the original borehole. The construction of a new Pump House was completed during 1953. Two Harland Submersible Pumps with a lifting capacity of 117 gallons per minute, and two 18 h.p. Electric Vertical Drip-proof Slipring Motors were fixed during 1954, and were brought into full operation in June 1954. Due to the heavy sand content in the water, Slotted Filters were placed round the new Bores for the purpose of holding back as much sand as possible from the Bores. Even so, much sand does get through, and therefore it is necessary to reduce the pumping rate in order to prevent excessive wear on the pump bearings. However, some improvement has resulted in the amount of sand present and it is hoped that a further improvement will be effected.

The average daily consumption is about 115,000 gallons which represents a consumption of about 31 gallons per head of the population. (Domestic consumption about 24 gallons per head; water used for trade purposes about 7 gallons per head; there is no bulk supply of water.)

(* per 1000 *related* live births, i.e. births occurring, not during the calendar year 1954 but during the twelve months in which the babies who died were themselves born.)

Of the 1197 occupied dwellings (1188 houses and 9 caravans), 1190 have a piped main water supply (1172 direct into the house and 18 to a stand pipe) and 7 are dependent upon wells, the water from which is piped into the house in 3 cases.

Sewage Disposal. The majority of the houses in the town are connected to the public sewers as the following table demonstrates:

Method of Sewage Disposal	Type of Water Supply		
	Well	Main Water	
		To stand pipe	Piped into house
Chemical Closet	—	9	—
Pail Closet	3	9	25
Water Closet			
To main sewer	1	—	1121
To cesspool or septic tank	3	—	26
TOTAL	7	18	1172

SECTION D HOUSING

New Construction since 1945

(a) By the Council

	Houses			Bungalows for old people
	Bedrooms			
	2	3	4	
Total completed 1945-53 ...	26	79	12	8
Number completed in 1954 ...	—	10	—	—
Number under construction at 31.12.54	—	—	—	—
Total completed and under construction	26	89	12	8

(b) By Private Enterprise. Three houses erected by private enterprise were completed in 1954.

Inspections made, Notices served and Orders made

	Under the Public Health Act 1936	Under the Housing Act 1936	Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1953
Inspections made ...	107	63	—
Notices served			
Informal	35	8	—
Statutory	—	—	—
Orders made ...	—	—	4

(c) Applications for housing by the Council. 125 applications were outstanding on 31.12.54.

SECTION E

FOOD INSPECTION

Since July 1st, 1954 Slaughtering has been carried out in two licensed Slaughterhouses.

Meat Inspection has been carried out and during the year under review the following articles of food, which were unfit for human consumption, were condemned and voluntarily surrendered:

Beef	...	...	...	Bone Taint	...	...	...	...	9 lb.
,,	...	...	...	Bruised	...	...	...	...	18 lb.
,,	...	...	...	Diseased	...	...	...	...	34 lb.
Pork	...	...	...	Bruised and Fractured Bone				...	10 lb.
Lamb	...	...	...	Discoloured and Sour				...	40 lb.
21 Ox Livers	...	...	...	(Abscesses and Cysts)				...	294 lb.
1 Ox Lung	...	...	...	(Abscesses)				...	20 lb.
2 Ox Tongues	...	...	...	(Abscesses)				...	20 lb.
9 Lamb's Livers	...	...	...	(Fluke)				...	23 lb.
Corned Beef	...	...	...	11 lb.	...	...	...	Cherries	1 Tin
Luncheon Beef	...	...	...	2 Tins	...	...	...	Plums	1 Tin
Baked Beans	...	...	...	6 Tins	...	...	...	Salmon	4 Tins
Rhubarb Puddings	...	...	...	16 Tins	...	...	...	Sardines	44 Tins
Irish Stew	...	...	...	1 Tin	...	...	...	Black Currants	14 Tins
Evaporated Milk	...	...	...	23 Tins	...	...	...	Seedless Raisins	120 lb.
Garden Peas	...	...	...	11 Tins	...	...	...	Polish Eggs	360
Chicken Soup	...	...	...	9 Tins	...	...	...

FOOD POISONING

There were no cases of food poisoning notified during the year.

SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Diseases notified during the year, other than Pulmonary Tuberculosis

					Number of cases notified		
					Male	Female	Total
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
TOTALS					2	2	4

TUBERCULOSIS

	New Cases		Transfers into the district		Transfers out of the district and patients classified as recovered		Died	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Pulmonary	3	—	2	1	—	—	—	—
Non-Pulmonary	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	4	1	2	1	1	—	—	—

FACTORIES ACTS 1937-1948

(a) *Inspection of Factories*

	Number in Register	Inspec-tions made	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 apply ...	39	60	5	—
2. Factories in which Section 7 applies	5	12	—	—
3. Other premises	1	1	2	—
TOTAL	45	73	7	—

(b) *Cases in which defects were found*

Defect	Number found	Number remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Want of Cleanliness	5	5	—
Ineffective Drainage of floors	1	1	—
Sanitary Conveniences—unsuitable or defective	1	—	1
TOTAL	7	6	1

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948—SECTION 47

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT 1951

No action was taken under these Acts during the year.

SUMMARY OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR RODENT CONTROL

This Council are subscribers to the scheme operated by the Bullingdon R.D.C.

Whenever a report of Rats has been received a message is sent, by telephone, to the Public Health Department of Bullingdon R.D.C. They, in turn, instruct their operator to inspect and carry out treatment. If the infested property is a business house of some kind, then before he commences treatment, the operator requires the owner, or person in charge, to sign a form agreeing to pay all costs of treatment.

In this case Bullingdon render an account to this Council and the Council in turn renders the account to the owner of the business premises. In the case of domestic property, the Council pays all charges, the account for which is rendered annually by Bullingdon R.D.C.

Year 1954

	<i>Houses</i>	<i>Agriculture</i>	<i>Business</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>No. of Properties Inspected</i>	228	9	22	259
<i>No. of Properties treated</i>	24	7	9	40

SUMMARY OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK DURING THE YEAR 1954

Number of different premises visited	...	...	...	...	205
Number of inspections made	...	...	...	...	631
Number of complaints received	...	...	...	...	68
Number of defects or nuisances discovered	...	...	...	...	87
Number of notices served (informal)	...	...	...	...	71
Number of notices served (statutory)	...	...	...	...	Nil
Number of prosecutions	...	...	...	...	Nil

NUMBER OF DEFECTS OR NUISANCES ABATED

As to Privies, W.C.s, sink wastes, etc.	...	...	...	...	19
As to Drains or Cesspools	...	...	...	...	36
As to Pigs or other animals	...	...	...	...	9
As to Cowsheds, Dairies and Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	14
As to Deficient or impure water	...	...	...	...	—
As to Unclean houses	...	...	...	...	6
As to Overcrowded houses	...	...	...	...	4
As to Polluted ditches or streams	...	...	...	...	5
As to Insanitary accumulations or deposits	...	...	...	...	7
As to other defects or nuisances	...	...	...	...	27
Number of premises disinfected	...	...	...	...	15
Number of water samples taken for analysis	...	...	...	...	39
Number of wells closed	...	...	...	...	1
Number of wells cleansed, repaired or deepened	...	...	...	...	—
Number of new wells sunk	...	...	...	...	—
Number of houses connected with the water mains	...	...	...	...	13
Number of water certificates granted	...	...	...	...	—
Number of surrenders of unsound or diseased food	...	...	...	...	173
Number of Conservancy closets replaced by W.C.s	...	...	...	...	—
Milkshops on Register	...	...	...	...	4
Milkshops, number of inspections	...	...	...	...	10
Cowsheds and dairy farms on Register	...	...	...	...	16
Cowsheds, number of inspections	...	...	...	...	50
Slaughterhouses, number on Register	...	...	...	...	2
Slaughterhouses, number of inspections	...	...	...	...	81
Piggeries, number of inspections	...	...	...	...	30

BULLINGDON RURAL DISTRICT

SECTION A
STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA
(1) PARISHES

Parish	Area (Acres)	R.G.'s Mid- 1954 Estimate	Dwellings (Inc. Huts and Caravans)	Rateable Value	Net Product of Penny Rate			Principal Occupa- tion of Inhabitants
				£	£	s.	d.	
Adwell ...	339	29	15	231		19	0	Agriculture
Aston Rowant	2924	600	189	2744	11	4	11	Agriculture
Beckley and Stowood	2039	414	119	1492	6	0	4	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Company
Benson ...	2748	3613	399	18408	73	15	9	Agriculture, Morris Motors, Pressed Steel Co., R.A.F. Benson and Didcot
Berrick Salome	560	118	37	349	1	8	9	Agriculture
Brightwell Baldwin	1612	169	54	569	2	5	4	Agriculture
Britwell Salome	1429	165	52	684	2	17	0	Agriculture
Chalgrove ...	2756	743	245	2905	13	19	3	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Chinnor ...	3420	1622	524	7719	31	10	11	Agriculture, Morris Motors, Pressed Steel Co., Cement works and Sawmills
Clifton Hampden	1924	431	139	6284	26	8	7	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Crowell ...	996	77	25	257	1	0	10	Agriculture
Cuddesdon ...	970	402	109	1689	5	17	10	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Culham ...	2051	517	123	4732	18	18	2	Agriculture and light industries in Abingdon
Cuxham with Easington	789	188	53	530	2	3	11	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Denton ...	845	120	39	645	2	13	5	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Dorchester-on- Thames	1954	1502	456	5724	23	1	2	Agriculture, Morris Motors, Pressed Steel Co. and indus- tries in Wallingford
Drayton St. Leonard	1302	321	82	877	3	12	11	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Elsfield ...	1296	138	41	512	2	1	3	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Ewelme ...	2542	456	155	2318	9	13	1	Agriculture and R.A.F. Benson
Forest Hill with Shot- over	2015	3702	1098	17638	72	1	10	Industries and offices in Oxford
Garsington ...	2233	960	265	5160	21	4	7	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.

Parish	Area (Acres)	R.G.'s Mid- 1954 Estimate	Dwellings (Inc. Huts and Caravans)	Rateable Value	Net Product of Penny Rate			Principal Occupa- tion of Inhabitants
Great Haseley	4468	568	174	£ 2050	£	s.	d.	Agriculture, Morris Motors, Pressed Steel Co. and Iron Works
Great Milton...	2582	762	242	3156	13	1	1	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Holton ...	1709	582	73	3651	16	0	0	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Horspath ...	1266	1021	305	4329	15	2	3	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Lewknor ...	3184	580	177	1855	7	9	2	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Little Milton...	1348	295	86	905	3	14	11	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Littlemore ...	1038	5639	1706	35590	133	16	5	Industries and offices in Oxford and locality
Marsh Baldon	1282	306	98	1152	4	3	6	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Old Marston	1011	2024	697	9612	38	12	1	Industries and offices in Oxford and locality
Newington ...	1834	126	43	653	2	16	2	Agriculture
Nuneham	2108	909	81	2623	10	18	3	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Courtenay								
Pyrton ...	3295	244	74	1158	4	18	5	Agriculture
Sandford-on- Thames	1005	740	220	2385	9	13	3	Agriculture, Morris Motors, Pressed Steel Co., paper mills and concrete block company
Shirburn ...	2421	177	64	823	3	8	6	Agriculture
Stadhampton	2432	682	205	2107	8	6	6	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Stanton St. John	2720	408	121	3228	10	16	10	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Stoke Talmage	869	68	24	222		18	6	Agriculture
Sydenham ...	1580	257	93	771	3	4	11	Agriculture
Tetsworth ...	3318	425	137	1751	6	10	1	Agriculture, Light Engineering, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Thomley ...	564	42	10	104		10	10	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Tiddington with Albury	1089	298	91	1404	5	17	8	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Towersey ...	1380	294	95	1245	5	2	7	Agriculture
Toot Baldon	1112	186	45	467	1	18	9	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.

Parish	Area (Acres)	R.G.'s Mid- 1954 Estimate	Dwellings (Inc. Huts and Caravans)	Rateable Value	Net Product of Penny Rate	Principal Occupa- tion of Inhabitants
Warborough...	1696	769	229	£ 3438	£ s. d. 14 0 0	Agriculture, indus- tries in Wallingford and Harwell Atomic Energy Research Establishment
Waterperry ...	1936	160	45	549	2 3 11	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Waterstock ...	900	97	34	342	1 4 10	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Watlington ...	4149	1857	522	7986	32 2 7	Agriculture, Morris Motors, Pressed Steel Co. and furni- ture factory
Wheatfield ...	740	42	14	168	14 6	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Wheatley ...	1050	1730	504	8011	32 7 2	Agriculture, Morris Motors, Pressed Steel Co., Grass Pro- ducts, Sawmills, Light Engineering and British Rail- ways
Woodeaton ...	788	65	22	330	1 8 2	Agriculture
TOTALS ...	91618	37640	10450	£183532	£730 19 5	

ALTERATION OF PARISH BOUNDARIES

The Minister of Housing and Local Government under the powers given by S.142, Local Government Act, 1933, has confirmed the County of Oxford (Parishes in the Rural District of Bullingdon) Confirmation Order, 1954, which alters the boundaries of the Parishes included in the list given above. The necessary adjustments have been made in the various tables in this report where practicable.

LAND AFFECTED BY THE ORDER

Acres from Parish	to	Parish	Acres
95 Adwell		Lewknor	95
32 Chinnor		Sydenham	32
23 Forest Hill with Shotover		Wheatley	23
1 Great Milton		Wheatley	1
8 Holton		Wheatley	8
15 Horspath		Wheatley	15
460 South Weston (Parish abolished)		Lewknor	460
13 Stanton St. John		Forest Hill with Shotover	13
70 Tiddington with Albury		Great Milton	70
63 Waterstock		Tiddington with Albury	63
780			780

(2) SUMMARY OF PRINCIPAL STATISTICS

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	91618
Population:						
R.G.'s Mid-year Estimate (30.6.53)	...	...				36050
R.G.'s Mid-year Estimate (30.6.54), Home Popu- lation	...	...	...	...	...	37640
Census (1951)	...	...	...	...	...	34996
Number of Inhabited Houses (1953)				...	...	8927
				(1954)	...	9576
Rateable Value...	...	...	...	...	...	£183532
Product of a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	£731

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND OCCUPATIONS

The district is predominantly agricultural. There are a number of light industries, sawmills and a cement works. Many people travel daily into Oxford to work, particularly at Morris Motors and the Pressed Steel Company. The principal occupations of the inhabitants of each parish are detailed on pp. 47-9.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR
BIRTHS

LIVE BIRTHS

		Males	Females	Persons	Live Birth Rate (per 1000 of the home population) Crude Corrected	
Bullingdon						
Legitimate	...	334	315	649	17.3	
Illegitimate	...	18	17	35	0.9	
		<hr/>				
TOTAL	...	352	332	684	18.2	18.2
		<hr/>				
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	...	15.2

STILL BIRTHS

		Males	Females	Persons	Still Birth Rate (per 1000 total births)	
Bullingdon						
Legitimate	...	2	6	8	12.2	
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—	Nil	
		<hr/>				
TOTAL	...	2	6	8	11.6	
		<hr/>				
England and Wales	...	...	...	...		23.4

DEATHS

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES

		Males	Females	Persons	Death Rate (per 1000 of the home population)	
					Crude	Corrected
Bullingdon	...	188	175	363	9.6	10.6
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	11.3	

MATERNAL MORTALITY

There were no deaths from puerperal causes during the year. In England and Wales the maternal mortality rate was 0.69 maternal deaths per 1000 total (live and still) births.

INFANT MORTALITY

Deaths of Infants under one year of age.

		Males	Females	Persons	Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 live births)
Bullingdon					
Legitimate	...	10	5	15	23.1
Illegitimate	...	1	—	1	28.6
TOTAL	...	11	5	16	23.4
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	25.5*

NEO-NATAL MORTALITY

Deaths of Infants under four weeks of age.

		Males	Females	Persons	Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (per 1000 live births)
Bullingdon					
Legitimate	...	6	4	10	15.4
Illegitimate	...	1	—	1	28.6
TOTAL	...	7	4	11	16.1
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	17.7* (Provisional) Figure

(* per 1000 *related* live births, i.e. births occurring, not during the calendar year 1954 but during the twelve months in which the babies who died were themselves born.)

CAUSES OF DEATH AS CLASSIFIED BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL

	Male	Female	Persons	As a per-centage of the total	Order of fre-quency
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	2	3	5	1.375	=15
2. Tuberculosis, other ...	1		1	.275	=25
3. Syphilitic disease ...		1	1	.275	=25
4. Diphtheria ...					
5. Whooping Cough ...					
6. Meningococcal infections ...					
7. Acute Poliomyelitis ...					
8. Measles ...					
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ...					
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	8	5	13	3.575	8
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	7	1	8	2.200	=13
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast		5	5	1.375	=15
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus		5	5	1.375	=15
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm ...	22	11	33	9.075	5
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...	2	1	3	.825	=21
16. Diabetes ...	2		2	.550	=22
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	10	30	40	11.000	3
18. Coronary disease, angina ...	30	20	50	13.750	2
19. Hypertension with heart disease ...	3	6	9	2.475	=12
20. Other heart disease ...	24	27	51	14.025	1
21. Other circulatory disease ...	8	6	14	3.850	7
22. Influenza ...					
23. Pneumonia ...	10	19	29	7.975	6
24. Bronchitis ...	8	3	11	3.025	9
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ...	7	1	8	2.200	=13
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	1	1	2	.550	=22
27. Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhoea ...	1	1	2	.550	=22
28. Nephritis and nephrosis ...					
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ...	4		4	1.100	=19
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...					
31. Congenital malformations ...	3	2	5	1.375	=15
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	16	21	37	10.175	4
33. Motor vehicle accidents ...	8	2	10	2.750	11
34. All other accidents ...	7	4	11	3.025	= 9
35. Suicide ...	4		4	1.100	=19
36. Homicide and operations of war ...					
ALL CAUSES:	188	175	363 (*265)	99.8 (*72.9)	

* Cancer, heart disease and chest disease combined.

SECTION B
GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES
FOR THE AREA

Laboratory Work. This is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Walton Street, Oxford, under the supervision of Dr. R. L. Vollum.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply. During the year main-supply schemes have been commenced for:

The Miltons, Tiddington, Berrick Salome, Easington, Warborough and Drayton St. Leonard.

Mains laying is completed at Warborough and Drayton St. Leonard (except for a short length at Shillingford) and at Easington, and the trunk main from Stadhampton to Tiddington has been laid to the A.40 London Road and is continuing to Tiddington Village.

Potential supplies from boreholes at Kingston Blount and Watlington have been tested. The Watlington bore is satisfactory but the yield from Kingston Blount is insufficient and it has therefore been decided to sink and test a borehole at Lewknor.

A small extension has been made to serve houses in Hill Road, Watlington.

In those parishes in which water mains are already laid the following additional houses were connected to the mains during the year:

PARISH	Number of Houses	Water Suppliers
Aston Rowant	6	Oxford Corporation
Beckley and Stowood	1	ditto
Benson	1	South Oxon Water Co.
Brightwell Baldwin	3	Oxford Corporation
Britwell Salome	10	ditto
Chinnor	55	ditto
Clifton Hampden	16	Bullingdon R.D.C.
Dorchester-on-Thames	41	ditto
Elsfield	2	Oxford Corporation
Forest Hill with Shot-over	29	ditto
Garsington	1	Bullingdon R.D.C.
Great Haseley	5	ditto
Great Milton	1	ditto
Horspath	22	Oxford Corporation
Lewknor	6	ditto
Littlemore	130	ditto
Old Marston	111	ditto
Newington	1	Bullingdon R.D.C.
Sandford-on-Thames	11	Oxford Corporation
Shirburn	4	ditto
Stadhampton	8	Bullingdon R.D.C.
Stanton St. John	4	Oxford Corporation
Sydenham	1	Bullingdon R.D.C.
Tetsworth	15	ditto
Towersey	2	ditto
Waterperry	5	ditto
Waterstock	1	ditto
Watlington	18	ditto
Wheatley	11	ditto
TOTAL	521	

In some instances where a piped water supply is not available the water supplies are deficient in quality or quantity or in both.

Bacteriological examination of water samples. The following two tables show the results of bacteriological examinations of water supplies from non-mains and mains sources respectively.

The first table shows that 82 per cent of the samples taken were potentially dangerous to health. It should be borne in mind, however, that such samples are not infrequently taken from known-to-be-contaminated sources with the object of providing evidence at Ministry enquiries of the desirability of putting in a mains supply.

(1). *Bacteriological Examination of Water Samples during 1954 from sources other than main piped supplies.*

PARISH	Number of Samples of Water reported as:			Totals
	Satisfactory	Slightly Contaminated	Grossly Contaminated	
Aston Rowant	1	—	1	2
Beckley & Stowood	—	1	1	2
Benson	1	—	1	2
Brightwell Baldwin	—	1	—	1
Chalgrove	—	1	—	1
Chinnor	1	3	6	10
Clifton Hampden	—	—	1	1
Culham	—	1	2	3
Dorchester-on-Thames	—	1	1	2
Drayton St. Leonard	—	—	2	2
Great Haseley	1	1	6	8
Great Milton	4	4	3	11
Lewknor	3	8	5	16
Little Milton	—	—	1	1
Nuneham Courtenay	1	1	1	3
Pyrton	1	—	2	3
Stadhampton	—	—	2	2
Stanton St. John	1	1	—	2
Stoke Talmage... ..	—	1	3	4
Sydenham	—	—	2	2
Tetsworth	—	—	3	3
Tiddington with Albury	—	—	2	2
Warborough	2	—	1	3
Watlington	—	—	2	2
Wheatfield	—	—	1	1
TOTALS	16	24	49	89
PER CENT	18	27	55	100

(2). *Bacteriological Examination of Water Samples during 1954 from main piped water supplies.*

PARISH	Ministry of Health Classifications				Totals
	Class 1 Highly satis- factory	Class 2 Satis- factory	Class 3 Suspi- cious	Class 4 Unsatis- factory	
			Potentially dan- gerous to health		
Aston Rowant (New borehole)	1	—	—	—	1
Dorchester-on-Thames	5	—	—	—	5
Old Marston	2	—	—	—	2
*Warborough (New mains supply)	—	—	—	1	1
*Watlington (New borehole)	2	—	—	1	3
TOTALS	10	—	—	2	12
PER CENT	83	—	—	17	100

* These samples were taken from potential supplies and further samples from these supplies have proved to be satisfactory.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal. A scheme for sewerage Benson and Ewelme is in progress. Mains laying at Benson is almost completed, and the construction of the sewer from Benson to Ewelme is proceeding.

A scheme to serve Chalgrove is proceeding: a rising main and sewer in Mill Lane are completed and the pumping station is in course of erection.

The modified scheme to serve the Council's Housing Estate at Horspath has been completed.

A revised scheme of main drainage for Spring Lane, Littlemore, has been approved in principle by the Ministry, and a draft sewerage and sewage disposal scheme for Forest Hill Village has been prepared.

Reference to the table on pp. 000 shows that 44 % of the dwellings in the R.D. are now connected to the sewer (a rise of 6% since 1953), 26% have cesspools but almost a third (30%) are still described as having 'inadequate drainage'. Therefore, although there has been a welcome improvement in the last year much remains to be done.

†Great Milton	...	16	2	33	—	92	99	Private wells ...	...	105	137	28	145
Holton	...	9	—	53	—	3	8	Oxford City Mains	...	40	33	—	53
Horspath	...	12	—	258	24	6	5	Oxford City Mains	...	207	98	26	124
Lewknor	...	—	—	46	—	62	69	Oxford City Mains	...	45	132	12	85
†Little Milton	...	—	—	16	—	30	40	Private wells ...	...	28	58	10	42
Littlemore	...	6	—	1634	44	7	15	Oxford City Mains	...	1672	34	1682	17
†Marsh Baldon	...	13	1	—	—	37	47	Private wells ...	...	26	72	—	33
Old Marston	...	—	—	570	115	2	10	Oxford City Mains	...	626	71	525	6
Newington	...	3	—	18	—	11	11	Oxford City Mains	...	20	23	—	28
Nuneham Courtenay	...	15	—	—	—	25	41	Private wells ...	...	14	67	—	18
Pyrton	...	3	—	5	—	34	32	Oxford City Mains	...	19	55	—	36
Sandford-on-Thames	...	—	—	109	98	2	11	Oxford City Mains	...	1·5	45	—	16
Shirburn	...	10	—	3	—	11	40	Private Mains and Oxford City Mains	...	11	53	13	35
Stadhampton	...	24	1	65	26	57	32	Oxford City Mains	...	93	111	10	125
Stanton St. John	...	23	2	84	—	6	6	Oxford City Mains	...	55	66	20	64
Stoke Talmage	...	—	—	—	—	4	20	Private wells ...	...	3	21	—	11
Sydenham	...	2	—	13	6	25	47	Oxford City Mains	...	33	60	39	17
Tetsworth	...	—	—	38	76	23	—	Private wells and Council Mains	...	49	8	32	23
Thomley	...	—	—	2	8	—	—	Bucks Water Board to huts	...	2	8	8	2
†Tiddington with Albury	...	21	—	—	10	36	24	Private and Parish wells	...	65	30	14	48
†Toot Baldon	...	5	—	—	—	13	27	Private wells ...	...	8	37	—	9
Towersey	...	—	—	39	—	19	37	Oxford City Mains	...	36	59	10	40
†Warborough	...	14	—	21	—	106	88	Private wells ...	...	129	100	24	129
Waterperry	...	—	—	22	—	12	11	Oxford City Mains	...	19	29	6	29
Waterstock	...	—	—	12	—	7	15	Oxford City Mains	...	11	20	—	12
Watlington	...	11	—	240	2	144	125	Oxford City Mains	...	414	108	4	39
Wheatfield	...	—	7	—	—	3	4	Private wells ...	...	4	10	—	7
Wheatley	...	—	—	448	—	28	28	Oxford City Mains	...	403	101	386	51
Woodeaton	...	5	2	—	—	12	3	Oxford City Mains	...	10	12	—	19
TOTALS	...	323	95	6245	945	1283	1559			6537	3913	4599	2676

NOTES: (1) Although the figures given are as accurate as possible, many of them are of necessity estimates as it is obviously impracticable to inspect every house in the district every year.
(2) Parishes marked with a † are those in which new works in connection with water supply are planned or under construction.
(3) Dwellings with inadequate drainage are excluded from the figures given under Drainage.

SECTION D
HOUSING

New Construction. The table on pages 61 and 62 summarizes the provision of new houses during the last five years.

The new houses erected in the district during 1954 are detailed below:

PARISH	Houses Erected By									
	Local Authority									Private Enter- prise
	No.	Types (See footnote p. 79)								No.
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
Aston Rowant ...										2
Beckley & Stowood ...										1
Benson										1
Brightwell Baldwin ...										2
Chalgrove										1
Chinnor										2
Clifton Hampden ...	2			2						
Dorchester-on-Thames										2
Elsfield										1
Forest Hill with Shot- over										5
Great Milton	14			14						2
Holton										1
Horspath	10			10						3
Littlemore	68			16				4	48	10
Old Marston	34			34						72
Sandford-on-Thames ...										1
Stadhampton										6
Tetsworth	16			16						1
Warborough	2			2						
Waterperry										3
Watlington										3
Wheatley										5
TOTALS ...	146			94				4	48	124

HUTS AND MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

(a) *Number of hutted sites and number of occupied huts on December 31st, 1954.*

Hut Sites	Number of occupied huts thereon
Hampden Estate, Chalgrove	135
Mount Farm and Field Farm Estates, Dorchester	184
TOTAL	319

Parts of the following hut sites are in the Rural District but they are administered by the Local Authorities named.

- (i) The Slade Camp, Headington. (Horspath Parish.)
Administered by Oxford Corporation 79 huts
- (ii) Wormingham Camp, Oakley. (Thomley Parish.)
Administered by Aylesbury R.D.C. 8 huts

(b) *Moveable Dwellings*. Licensed sites and dwellings on December 31st, 1954, are detailed in the table on p. 60.

PARISH	Total number of caravans stationed in Parish on 31st December, 1954	Land licensed for the stationing of caravans Public Health Act 1936 Sect. 269 (1) (i)			Number of single licences issued to individuals to station a single caravan in the district Public Health Act 1936. Sect. 269 (1) (ii)	Distribution of caravans. Number of sites and number of caravans each can accommodate																			Total No. of Vans sites can accomodate
		Number of Sites	Total number of caravans for which sites licensed	Number of caravans on site on 31.12.54†		Number of Caravans on a site																			
						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	12	16	32	48	91	106					
Aston Rowant ...	2	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2				
Beckley and Stowood ...	5	—	—	—	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5				
Benson ...	27	3	18	18	9	3	3	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	27				
Berrick Salome ...	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1				
Brightwell Baldwin ...	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1				
Chinnor ...	6	1	32	4	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	34				
Cuddesdon ...	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1				
Culham ...	4	1	4	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4				
Dorchester-on-Thames ...	9	—	—	—	9	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9				
Ewelme ...	3	—	—	—	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3				
Forest Hill with Shotover ...	21	2	15	15(9)	15	2	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	21				
Garsington ...	38	4	31	31(6)	13	2	1	—	1	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	39				
Great Haseley ...	3	—	—	—	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3				
Great Milton ...	3	—	—	—	3	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3				
Horspath ...	18	2	13	13	5	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18				
Littlemore ...	49	5	44	39(6)	16	7	—	1	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	54				
Marsh Baldon ...	3	—	—	—	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3				
Old Marston ...	158	6	174	153(7)	12	1	—	1	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	179				
Sandford-on-Thames ...	102	3	101	101	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	102				
Stadhampton ...	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1				
Stanton St. John...	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1				
Towersey ...	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1				
Warborough ...	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1				
Watlington ...	3	—	—	—	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3				
Wheatley ...	7	—	—	—	7	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7				
TOTALS	468	27	432	378(28)	118	56	10	2	9	—	6	3	2	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	523				

†The figures in parentheses in Column 4 represent the number of caravans on the licensed sites in each parish the tenants of which also hold individual licences issued by the Council.

PROVISION OF NEW HOUSES IN THE PERIOD 1950-1954

Parish	COUNCIL HOUSES										PRIVATE ENTERPRISE HOUSES											
	Number Completed in each year					Number under Construction on 31.12.54	Total No. Completed and under Construction 31.12.54	Analysis by Type (see page 79)														
	Number Completed in each Year							Number Completed in each Year														
	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	Number under Construction on 31.12.54	Total No. Completed and under Construction 31.12.54
Adwell ...	—	8	12	—	—	—	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	5	8
Aston Rowant	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4
Beckley and Stowood	—	4	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	8
Benson ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Berrick Salome	6	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brightwell Baldwin	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Britwell Salome	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chalgrove	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	—	—	—	—	7
Chinnor ...	—	8	—	10	—	4	18	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	6	2	—	—	1	13
Clifton Hampden...	—	—	—	6	2	—	8	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Crowell ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Cuddesdon	—	—	8	10	—	4	18	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Culham ...	—	—	26	—	—	6	26	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Cuxham with Easington	—	4	—	—	—	—	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Denton ...	—	—	6	—	—	—	6	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dorchester	—	—	12	—	—	2	12	2	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	3	2	1	—	14
Drayton St. Leonard	8	—	—	—	—	—	8	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Elsfield ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ewelme ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Forest Hill with Shotover	—	16	—	—	—	—	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	5	3	12

[illegible]

Demand for Houses. At the end of 1954 there were 1200 applications for council houses outstanding. To replace unfit houses, to abate overcrowding, to rehouse families now living in huts and to meet the increased demand for housing of a growing population, it is estimated that approximately 1050 houses are required. It will be seen from the housing table on pp. 61 and 62 that an average of 121 council houses per annum were erected in the district as a whole, between 1950 and 1954.

Housing Act, 1949, S.20—Improvement Grants

Applications for financial assistance towards the improvement of dwelling-houses have been received as follows:

HOUSES

Applications:	Years					Totals
	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	
Received	10	1	1	15	82	109
Approved	4	—	1	8	74	87
Rejected or withdrawn ...	6	1	—	7	3	17
Still under consideration ...	—	—	—	—	5	5
Works of improvement completed and grants paid ...	4	—	—	3	11	18

NOTE: Although the figures of applications received are correct, some of these are, in effect, re-applications for the same houses since former applications were rejected or withdrawn, and a number of these re-applications have been approved.

Housing Act, 1936—Houses dealt with under Section 11, as amended by s.3(c)(2), Housing Act, 1949

	Demolition Orders made by Council	Undertakings given and accepted by Council	Closing Order made in substitution for Demolition Order
Parish	Houses	Houses	Houses
Britwell Salome ...	—	—	1
Ewelme	—	1	—
Forest Hill with Shot- over	1	—	—
Littlemore	—	1	—
Sandford-on-Thames	1	—	—
Stadhampton ...	1	—	—
TOTALS ...	3	2	1

As a result of formal action taken in the Year 1953, one house at Cuddesdon was made fit for habitation during 1954.

145 houses were made fit during the year as a result of informal action under the Public Health and Housing Acts.

SECTION E

FOOD INSPECTION

The year saw the end of centralized slaughtering under Government controls and, as a result, two premises used as slaughterhouses prior to the War have been licensed by the Council, but so far have not been put into commission and use is being made of the slaughtering facilities in Oxford and Thame. Meat inspection in the district is confined to routine visits to butchers' shops and also of animals slaughtered as casualties.

Meat inspected and condemned

Ox skirts (Imported—Australian)	130 lb.	Unwholesome
Pig kidneys and fat	8 lb.	Decomposed
Beef trimmings	10 lb.	Bruising
Two sides of Pork	152 lb.	Decomposition
Leg of one sow	5 lb.	Injury
Hindquarters of Beef (Imported)	414 lb.	Bone Taint

Food inspected and condemned

Chopped Pork	4 lb.	One tin
Corned Beef	6 lb.	One tin
Condensed Milk	32 oz.	2 tins
Beasts' Viscera (Sausage Skins)	—	482 sets

FOOD PREMISES

Regular inspection has been maintained during the year of all classes of food premises and a constant effort is being made to improve hygienic standards. The following is a brief report on the main classes of food premises:

Shops. In addition to the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, applicable to shops, the Council also administer the sanitary provisions of the Shops Acts, including certain items administered on behalf of the County Council. On the whole, the general standard of hygiene in shops is good and no special problems have been encountered.

Other Food Premises. These include kitchens, bakehouses and dairies, where in addition to the Food and Drugs Act, other legislation applies, such as the Factories Acts and the Milk and Dairies Regulations. In the case of dairies, the Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Areas) Order, 1954, came into force and brought about the end of the sale of ungraded milk. This has resulted in a further concentration of milk processing and several small dairymen have ceased processing milk. So far as restaurant kitchens and bakehouses are concerned, the position is not always satisfactory and several premises are too small and out-moded and make the maintenance of a proper hygienic standard difficult to achieve.

Licensed Premises. A great deal of work has been carried out in connection with this class of premises. The Council have adopted a standard relating to hygiene and sanitation with a view to having all premises brought up to it eventually, and the gradual extension of water mains and sewers provides an opportunity for real improvements. The Brewery Companies have been and are carrying out a continual programme of improvements and good progress is being made on the improvement of this class of premises.

NUMBER AND TYPE OF FOOD PREMISES IN THE AREA

1. Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	142
2. Shops:						
Grocers and General Stores	...	...	...	...	98	
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	...	...	...	...	5	
Confectioners	...	...	...	...	10	
Butchers	...	...	...	...	12	
Fish shops	...	...	...	...Wet	1	
				Dry	5	
					—	6
Chemists	...	...	...	...	2	
					—	133
3. Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	14
4. Restaurant Kitchens	...	...	...	...	...	19
5. Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	9
						<hr/>
					TOTAL	317
						<hr/>

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS 1938-1954

Milk and Dairies

1. Distributors of Milk	...	...	...	...	...	13
2. Dealers' Licences, issued to distributors of milk trading from premises in the district, authorizing the use of the special designation:						
(a) Pasteurized	...	...	...	...	...	13
(b) Sterilized	...	...	...	...	...	1
(c) Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	...	11
(d) Accredited	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

3.	Supplementary Dealers' Licences, issued to distributors of milk trading from premises outside the district, authorizing the use of the special designation:						
	(a) Pasteurized	...	...	...	...	...	8
	(b) Sterilized	...	...	...	...	...	1
	(c) Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	...	8
	(d) Accredited	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

Number and Type of Food Premises in the Area registered under S.14 Food and Drugs Act, 1938:

1.	Storage and Sale of Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	69
2.	Preparation or Manufacture of Sausages	...	...	...	...	18
3.	Preparation of Fish by any process of cooking	...	...	...	...	5
4.	Preparation of Pickled Meats	...	...	...	...	4

Slaughterhouses and Knackers' Yards:

1.	Licensed Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	2
2.	Licensed Knackers' Yards	...	...	...	...	2

Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1933-1954:

Licensed Slaughtermen	12
-----------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT AT LICENSED PREMISES, SHOPS AND FOOD PREMISES *Premises*

1.	Extensive reconditioning	...	...	...	...	...	1
2.	Improvements to living accommodation (e.g. sculleries, kitchens and bathrooms)	...	...	...	...	...	6
3.	Improvements to Sanitary Conveniences—replacement of pail closets by water closets	...	...	...	...	...	4
4.	Connection to water mains	...	...	...	...	...	40
5.	Connection to public sewers	...	...	...	...	...	4
6.	New wash-up sinks in bars or cellars...	...	...	...	...	...	15
7.	New domestic sinks	...	...	...	...	...	3
8.	Hot water provided to existing or new wash-up sinks or kitchen sinks	...	...	...	...	...	17

Food Poisoning

Ten cases were notified during the year. For details, see FOOD POISONING (p. 11).

SECTION F
PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS
DISEASES

Diseases notified during the year, other than Pulmonary Tuberculosis

						Number of cases notified		
						Male	Female	Total
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	21	15	36
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	58	56	114
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	5	5	10
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	10	5	15
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	13	12	25
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	3	7	10
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	5
Malaria	...	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
TOTALS ...						115	105	220

TUBERCULOSIS

	New Cases		Transfers into the district		Transfers out of the district and patients classified as recovered		Died	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Pulmonary	23	13	11	15	6	7	2	3
Non-Pulmonary	2	6	1	3	—	3	1	—
TOTALS ...	25	19	2	18	6	10	3	3

FACTORIES ACTS 1937-1948

(a) *Inspection of Factories*

	Number in Register	Inspections made	Written Notices served	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 apply ...	20	32	2	—
2. Factories in which Section 7 applies ...	73	125	7	—
3. Other premises ...	23	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	116	157	9	—

(b) *Cases in which defects were found*

Defect	Number found	Number remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Want of cleanliness... ..	3	3	—
Sanitary Conveniences (Sec. 7)			
(a) Insufficient	3	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	1
TOTALS ...	9	6	1

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948

Section 47

No action was taken under this Section of the Act during the year, nor under the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951.

Section 50

As it appeared that no other suitable arrangements had been, or were being, made, arrangements were made under this Section of the Act for the burial of one person who died at Aston Rowant.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The following is an analysis of the work carried out during the year under this Act.

ITEM	Type of Property				Total
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural	All other (including business premises)	
1. Number of properties inspected as a result of:					
(a) Notification	16	259	14	12	301
(b) Survey under the Act	20	253	49	9	331
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)	30	39	13	210	292
2. Total inspections carried out, including reinspections	140	733	100	238	1211
3. Number of properties inspected (in Sect. 1) which were found to be infested by:					
(a) Rats { Major	2	2	4	2	10
Minor	29	465	16	16	526
(b) Mice { Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	8	—	—	8
4. Number of infested properties (in Sect. 3) treated by the L.A.	31	475	17	18	541
5. Total treatments carried out, including re-treatments	67	630	31	18	746
6. Number of 'Block' control schemes carried out	—	91	—	—	91
7. Estimated number of rats and mice destroyed, 14,900.					

SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK DURING THE YEAR 1954

Number of inspections made	...	...	...	...	...	3112
Number of complaints received	...	...	...	...	...	554
Number of notices served (informal)	...	...	...	...	...	390
Number of notices served (statutory)	...	...	...	...	...	58
Number of Prosecutions	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

Number of Defects or Nuisances abated

As to privies, W.C.s, Sink wastes, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	42
As to drains and cesspools	...	...	...	...	...	101
As to disrepair of houses	...	...	...	...	...	80
As to overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	6
As to factories	...	...	...	...	...	6
As to insanitary accumulations or deposits	...	...	...	...	...	2
As to polluted ditches or streams	...	...	...	...	...	9
As to animals	...	...	...	...	...	1
As to refuse	...	...	...	...	...	87
Number of water samples taken	...	...	...	...	...	101
Number of food seizures or surrenders	...	...	...	...	...	35
Number of houses disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	25
Number of houses disinfested	...	...	...	...	...	18
Number of houses in which bedding was disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	18
Nature of repairs carried out:						
Roofs	...	...	...	...	...	24
External walls	...	...	...	...	...	18
Windows	...	...	...	...	...	39
Doors	...	...	...	...	...	9
Floors	...	...	...	...	...	23
Grates	...	...	...	...	...	28
Staircases	...	...	...	...	...	8
Gutterings	...	...	...	...	...	10
Sinks	...	...	...	...	...	38
Ceilings	...	...	...	...	...	18
Coppers	...	...	...	...	...	6
Chimney stacks	...	...	...	...	...	6
Decorations	...	...	...	...	...	19

HENLEY RURAL DISTRICT

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA
(1) PARISHES

Parish	Area (Acres)	Estimated Population (1954)	Civilian Dwellings (Inc. Huts and Caravans)	Rateable Value £	Product of Penny Rate £
Bix	2469	460	149	2919	11
Checkendon ...	2567	850	137	4313	17
Crowmarsh ...	4252	990	269	6755	27
Eye and Dunsden	3348	1570	472	10497	42
Goring	2356	1980	552	18173	72
Goring Heath ...	2851	960	274	4854	19
Harpsden	2173	350	127	5530	22
Highmoor	1304	460	120	3452	14
Ipsden	2214	300	93	2751	12
Kidmore End ...	2553	1340	436	8357	31
Mapledurham ...	3068	1420	472	12634	49
Nettlebed	1527	700	213	4137	18
Nuffield	2138	500	74	3515	16
Pishill with Stonor	2612	370	109	1545	6
Rotherfield Greys	2096	380	117	3086	13
Rotherfield Peppard	1760	1340	355	9446	41
Shiplake	2375	1620	389	11380	46
Sonning Common	910	2150	467	9474	38
South Stoke ...	1890	450	129	1794	8
Stoke Row	1737	550	174	2857	10
Swyncombe	3595	380	106	1541	7
Whitchurch ...	1323	400	198	5279	20
Woodcote	2179	750	245	5070	21
TOTALS	53297	20270	5677	£139359	£560

(2) SUMMARY OF PRINCIPAL STATISTICS

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	53297
Population:								
R.G.'s Mid-year Estimate (30.6.53) Home Population	...							19780
R.G.'s Mid-year Estimate (30.6.54) Home Population	...							20270
Census (1951)	...	...	...	...	...	...		19979
Number of Inhabited Houses (1953)	...	...	...	...	...	...		5543
		(1954)	...	...	...	...		5677
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...		£139359
Product of a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...		£560

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND OCCUPATIONS

The district is mainly agricultural and residential. There are a few light industries, such as instrument-making and coach-building, and also a number of saw mills. The bulk of the occupied population is therefore employed in agriculture, forestry, saw mills, quarrying, building construction and light industry.

EXTRACTS FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR
BIRTHS

LIVE BIRTHS

	Males	Females	Persons	Live Birth Rate (per 1000 of the home population)	
				Crude	Corrected
Henley R.D.					
Legitimate ...	165	160	325	16.0	
Illegitimate ...	6	10	16	0.8	
	<hr/>				
TOTAL ...	171	170	341	16.8	16.8
	<hr/>				
England and Wales ...	...	...	...	15.2	

STILL BIRTHS

	Males	Females	Persons	Still Birth Rate (per 1000 total births)	
Henley R.D.					
Legitimate ...	4	3	7	21.1	
Illegitimate ...	—	—	—	Nil	
	<hr/>				
TOTAL ...	4	3	7		20.1
	<hr/>				
England and Wales ...	...	...	...		23.4

DEATHS

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES

	Males	Females	Persons	Death Rate (per 1000 of the home population)	
				Crude	Corrected
Henley R.D. ...	78	89	167	8.2	7.6
England and Wales ...	...	...	...		11.3

CAUSES OF DEATH AS CLASSIFIED BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL

	Male	Female	Persons	As a per-centage of the total	Order of fre-quency
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ...					
2. Tuberculosis, other ...					
3. Syphilitic disease ...	1		1	.6	= 14
4. Diphtheria ...					
5. Whooping Cough ...					
6. Meningococcal infections ...					
7. Acute Poliomyelitis ...					
8. Measles ...					
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ...					
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	4	7	4.2	= 7
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	6	1	7	4.2	= 7
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast		4	4	2.4	12
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus					
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm ...	11	8	19	11.4	= 3
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...					
16. Diabetes ...		1	1	.6	= 14
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	11	20	31	18.6	1
18. Coronary disease, angina ...	15	13	28	16.8	2
19. Hypertension with heart disease ...					
20. Other heart disease ...	9	9	18	10.8	5
21. Other circulatory disease ...	6	4	10	6.0	6
22. Influenza ...					
23. Pneumonia ...	4	2	6	3.6	= 10
24. Bronchitis ...	3	4	7	4.2	= 7
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ...					
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...					
27. Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhoea ...					
28. Nephritis and nephrosis ...					
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ...	1		1	.6	= 14
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...					
31. Congenital malformations ...		2	2	1.2	13
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	6	13	19	11.4	= 3
33. Motor vehicle accidents ...					
34. All other accidents ...	2	4	6	3.6	= 10
35. Suicide ...					
36. Homicide and operations of war ...					
ALL CAUSES:	78	89	167 (*127)	100.2 (*76.2)	

*Cancer, heart disease and chest disease combined.

MATERNAL MORTALITY

There were no deaths from puerperal causes during the year. In England and Wales the maternal mortality rate was 0.69 maternal deaths per 1000 total (live and still) births.

INFANT MORTALITY

Deaths of Infants under one year of age.

		Males	Females	Persons	Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 live births)
Henley R.D.					
Legitimate	...	3	5	8	24.6
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—	Nil
		<hr/>			
TOTAL	...	3	5	8	23.5
		<hr/>			
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	25.5*

NEO-NATAL MORTALITY

		Males	Females	Persons	Neo-Natal Mor- tality Rate (per 1000 live births)
		Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age			
Henley R.D.					
Legitimate	...	3	4	7	21.5
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—	Nil
		<hr/>			
TOTAL	...	3	4	7	20.5
		<hr/>			
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	17.7* (provisional figure)

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES
FOR THE AREA

Laboratory Work. This is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Walton Street, Oxford, under the supervision of Dr. R. L. Vollum.

As the Public Health Laboratory at the Battle Hospital, Reading, is nearer to Henley than the Oxford Laboratory, some practitioners prefer to send their specimens there, where they are examined by Dr. Wood.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply. Of the 3472 houses inspected in the course of the Rural Housing Survey, 2946 are now supplied with main water, 391 are dependent upon wells and 135 are without a separate water supply.

Main water is supplied from a number of sources.

(* per 1000 *related* live births, i.e. births occurring, not during the calendar year 1954 but during the twelve months in which the babies who died were themselves born.)

NOTE:—I am much indebted to the Engineer and Surveyor of the Henley R.D., Mr. M. R. Gethin, M.I.MUN.E., M.R.S.I., for the facts and figures contained in the report on the R.D.s water supply and sewerage.

(a) Henley Water Company supplies Badgemore, Harpsden and parts of Rotherfield Greys, Shiplake and Peppard. The supplies are chlorinated and softened by the base exchange process from 19°-20° (Clark) to between 8° and 9° (Clark). The supply is abundant and constant, and samples taken have always shown the water to be highly satisfactory.

(b) South Oxfordshire Water Company supplies the remainder of the Rural District with the exception of a part of Whitchurch which is supplied by Reading Corporation. The supplies are chlorinated, but not softened by any process.

The mains laid in 1952 from Woodcote to Kingwood Common, and from Nippers Wood to Gallowstree Common have considerably improved the supplies to the Sonning Common and Bix area, and also to Kidmore End and Mapledurham.

The work on laying a new 14-inch rising main to the Woodcote reservoirs is well under way, and should be completed early in 1956. This will enable 2,000,000 gallons per day to be delivered to the Woodcote reservoirs, and this should be sufficient to cope with the expected peak demand within a few years time.

With regard to the Nettlebed area, the question of a scheme for augmenting the supply to this area is still under consideration, but minor alterations in the junctions of mains and operation of existing pumps, and the routing of supplies have enabled the delivery to be stepped up during peak periods. These improvements, coupled with a lessening in demand due to the closing of hutted camps at Highmoor and Checkendon, have somewhat eased the situation in this area.

SAMPLING

During the year 17 samples of water were examined bacteriologically. The results of these examinations are as follows:

Main Water Supply Ministry of Health Classification				Well Water Supply (including piped into house)		
Class 1 Highly Satisfactory	Class 2 Satis- factory	Class 3 Sus- picious	Class 4 Unsatis- factory	Satisfac- tory	Slightly Con- taminated	Grossly Con- taminated
9	—	—	—	2	1	5

The table at the close of this Section includes a summary of the types of water supply available in each parish.

Sewage Disposal. Of the 3472 houses inspected in the course of the Rural Housing Survey 209 (6.0%) are now connected to public sewers, 1989 (57.3%) to cesspools or septic tanks of varying efficiency, 415

(12.0% to soakaways, also of varying efficiency, and 859 (24.7%) have no drainage at all. The first and last figures give the measure of the problem which still confronts the R.D. The completion of the Goring Scheme will, however, very materially improve the position.

New Sewerage Works. Progress during 1954 and to date.

Goring Scheme. During the year, the new sewage disposal works at Goring have come into operation, and the northern third of the area has been sewered. There are approximately 3.4 miles of public sewers.

In January 1954 a modification was made as between Stages 2 and 3 to allow Stage 2 to include the centre of the village, the most heavily built-up area. In March it was resolved to ask the Minister of Housing and Local Government to allow Stage 2 to be commenced immediately upon completion of Stage 1. In April the Minister replied that, as Stage 1 was not scheduled for completion until April 1955, consideration of the starting date for Stage 2 must be postponed until early in 1955. In May the Ministry were again approached, since the work on Stage 1 was proceeding faster than schedule; the Minister advised a further approach in September or October. Late in November the Ministry sent an Inspector to note the progress on Stage 1 and the Inspector was approached about Stage 2.

In January 1955 the Minister ruled that it was most unlikely that he would agree to Stage 2 being started during the financial year 1955-56. In February 1955 work was so far ahead of schedule on Stage 1 in spite of winter weather difficulties in both 1954 and 1955 that it was resolved to ask the Minister to accept a deputation as had been done in order to obtain sanction for the scheme to commence. After considerable demur the deputation was received in May. Evidence was given by the Chairman of the Council, one of the members for Goring, the clerk to the R.D., the surveyor, the consultant engineer and the medical officer of health. The Minister reversed his previous decision and allowed the Council to go to tender forthwith for the commencement of Stage 2 as soon as possible.

It is estimated that this decision will probably result in a saving of some £10,000 and the earlier provision of sewerage for the village, since it was hinted that Stage 3 was not likely to be delayed after the completion of Stage 2—a convincing demonstration of the value of persistence and personal contact.

Nettlebed Scheme. In March 1954 the R.D. asked the Ministry that the Nettlebed scheme should precede the Whitchurch scheme since it is, in their view, of greater urgency. In April the compulsory order for the land was confirmed. In May the Minister agreed that Nettlebed should precede Whitchurch, but asked for the Whitchurch scheme also to be submitted. In June the R.D. asked for October 1st, 1954, as commencing date for the Nettlebed scheme. In January 1955 the Minister deferred the Nettlebed scheme owing to the national financial

position. In March 1955 the R.D. received a letter from the Minister authorizing the Council to proceed with the Nettlebed scheme in the financial year 1955-56 and desiring the Council to proceed to tender. In June the Minister gave sanction to start work on an accepted tender of approximately £37,000 and work will shortly commence.

Other Sewage Disposal Plants. In addition, the Council operates 26 minor sewage disposal plants serving Council housing estates throughout the District, and 21 small plants or septic tanks serving pre-war Council estates.

The Council also owns and maintains 3.7 miles of public sewers serving properties on the northern outskirts of Reading, the sewage from which is treated at Reading Corporation Works by agreement.

SUMMARY OF TYPE OF WATER SUPPLY, DRAINAGE ARRANGEMENTS AND CLOSET PROVISION

Parish	Drainage				Water				Sanitation				TOTAL NUMBER OF HOUSES
	To Sewer	Soak- away	Cesspool or septic tank	None	Main	Wells (Piped)	Wells (Ext.)	Without Separate Supply	W.C.	Pail Closet	Chem- ical Closet	Vault Closet	
Nuffield ...	—	2	46	17	58	—	7	—	42	18	5	—	65
Pishill-with-Stonor ...	—	24	21	54	41	16	29	13	25	55	15	4	99
Swyncombe ...	—	2	29	62	45	9	29	10	20	57	14	2	93
Nettlebed ...	—	15	86	53	138	4	10	2	76	69	9	—	154
Bix ...	—	12	80	27	96	5	9	9	62	48	9	—	119
Crowmarsh ...	—	33	77	60	133	1	28	8	54	104	10	2	170
Rotherfield Greys ...	—	8	54	20	78	1	3	—	41	34	7	—	82
Highmoor ...	—	1	41	27	57	—	9	3	34	31	4	—	69
Rotherfield Peppard ...	—	14	100	47	148	—	4	9	82	71	8	—	161
South Stoke ...	—	4	54	31	77	—	7	5	36	53	—	—	89
Woodcote ...	—	25	101	22	127	10	9	2	77	51	20	—	148
Harpsden ...	—	11	66	13	85	2	1	2	50	32	8	—	90
Kidmore End ...	11	8	178	53	224	9	11	6	179	62	9	—	250
Sonning Common ...	—	7	232	63	277	11	13	1	212	78	10	2	302
Stoke Row ...	—	45	53	35	112	1	19	—	41	77	15	—	133
Ipsden ...	—	22	35	18	43	5	19	9	30	36	8	1	75
Checkendon ...	—	20	66	21	91	8	7	1	44	57	6	—	107
Goring ...	—	25	245	46	282	10	11	13	179	127	10	—	316
Shiplake ...	—	17	152	48	199	2	9	7	119	88	10	—	217
Goring Heath ...	—	55	105	72	216	10	3	3	92	123	17	—	232
Dunsden ...	152	29	92	28	258	12	7	14	217	73	11	—	301
Whitchurch ...	9	10	48	3	45	6	10	9	42	19	9	—	70
Mapledurham ...	37	26	28	39	106	8	7	9	66	44	19	1	130
	209	415	1989	859	2946	130	261	135	1820	1407	233	12	3472
As a percentage of total. (1953 figure in parentheses)	6.0% (6.0)	12.0% (12.2)	57.3% (56.1)	24.7% (25.7)	84.6% (84.6)	3.7% (3.7)	7.8% (7.8)	3.9% (3.9)	52.4% (51.2)	40.0% (41.2)	6.7% (6.7)	.4% (.4)	

SECTION D
HOUSING

Rural Housing Survey

The undermentioned figures show the categories of houses under a rateable value of £20 as at 1st January, 1955. The figures have been revised into the new parishes following the Alteration of Rural Parishes Order, 1952.

Date In- spected	Parish	Categories				Total	Those over £20 R.V.
		1	2	3	4		
1945	Nettlebed ...	66	65	14	7	152	31
„	Bix ...	55	50	12	—	117	28
„	Crowmarsh ...	69	41	52	5	167	35
„	R. Greys ...	32	40	8	—	80	31
1946	Highmoor ...	24	38	6	—	68	31
„	R. Peppard ...	51	69	40	1	161	96
„	South Stoke ...	49	16	24	—	89	18
„	Woodcote ...	85	20	40	2	147	26
„	Harpsden ...	25	46	19	—	90	42
1947	Kidmore End ...	108	96	40	6	250	74
„	Sonning Common	137	139	25	—	301	68
„	Stoke Row ...	50	38	44	1	133	26
1948	Ipsden ...	23	24	28	—	75	15
„	Checkendon ...	50	25	30	—	105	22
1948/49	Goring ...	167	90	57	1	315	154
„	Shiplake ...	64	80	66	6	216	126
1949	Goring Heath ...	80	60	84	8	232	35
„	Dunsden ...	175	51	72	3	301	136
„	Whitchurch ...	30	19	21	—	70	48
1950	Mapledurham ...	35	58	32	2	127	287
1953	Nuffield ...	35	14	15	—	64	10
„	Pishill ...	21	14	55	5	95	11
1954	Swyncombe ...	30	17	40	—	87	11
Totals		1461	1110	824	47	3442	1361

(Note: this table excludes all post-war houses)

The Survey was begun in 1945 and completed in 1950 by which time 3482* houses had been inspected. Houses were placed in one of the following categories:

Key to Categories:

- Category 1 Satisfactory in all respects.
- Category 2 Minor defects.
- Category 3 Requiring repair, structural alteration or improvement.
- Category 4 Unfit for habitation and beyond repair at reasonable expense.

During the year 1954 the parish of Swyncombe was re-surveyed. The 1953 total of 3463 has been reduced to 3442 by demolition of category 4 cottages and by conversion of certain multiple properties.

* The original number of 3482 was reduced by 1.1.1955 to 3442 by the conversion of certain unsatisfactory multiple properties into a lower number of modernized units, and by demolition of Category 4 cottages and the application of closing orders.

Parish	LOCAL AUTHORITY										PRIVATE ENTERPRISE									
	Number completed in year(s)						Total number completed 31.12.54	Number under construction 31.12.54	Analysis by type*											
	Number completed in year(s)								Number completed in year(s)						Total number completed 31.12.54	Number under construction 31.12.54				
	1946-9	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954			1	2	3	4	5	6			1946-9	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Bix ...	10	—	—	—	—	4	14	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
Checkendon ...	8	4	—	6	—	—	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	5	—
Crowmarsh ...	18	—	6	6	10	12	52	24	4	—	9	2	4	—	—	1	1	2	9	—
Eye and Dunsden	—	—	16	4	—	—	20	—	—	16	6	—	1	—	—	3	—	4	8	5
Goring ...	10	10	—	—	—	—	20	4	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	4	7	3	20	3
Goring Heath ...	8	—	—	6	6	—	20	—	—	16	4	—	1	—	—	—	1	2	5	2
Harpsden ...	—	—	—	—	9	—	9	6	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
Highmoor ...	14	2	—	—	3	5	18	14	—	—	4	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Ipsden ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
Kidmore End ...	2	8	—	—	—	—	10	4	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	1	22	33	70	6
Mapledurham ...	14	—	6	—	—	—	20	4	—	12	6	—	39	1	—	—	4	32	77	4
Nettlebed ...	6	—	—	15	—	—	21	4	3	14	—	—	14	—	—	—	3	1	18	1
Nuffield ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Pishill-with-Stonor	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rotherfield Greys	6	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	5	1	—	5	—	—	1	—	1	7	1
Rotherfield Peppard	—	14	—	—	—	—	14	4	—	10	—	—	3	3	2	3	3	13	3	3
Shiplake ...	20	—	—	—	—	—	20	—	—	17	3	—	2	6	11	5	10	34	2	2
Sonning Common	12	—	18	10	—	—	40	9	30	10	—	—	5	1	2	1	2	4	4	2
South Stoke	—	—	—	—	12	—	12	4	8	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	7	2	2
Stoke Row	12	—	—	—	—	—	12	—	—	11	1	—	3	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Swyncombe	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whitchurch	—	—	—	—	10	8	18	6	16	—	—	—	4	3	—	—	3	14	—	—
Woodcote	10	4	6	—	10	8	18	16	22	—	—	—	7	—	1	4	5	21	7	7
TOTALS ...	156	42	52	47	62	39	398	37	113	182	68	40	30	2	11	32	62	111	334	42

*Definition of Types:
1. Traditional two bedroom, non-parlour.
2. Traditional three bedroom, parlour.
3. Traditional three bedroom, non-parlour.
4. Pre-fab three bedroom (Unity and Airey Houses).
5. Traditional bungalows.
6. Traditional four bedroom houses.
7. Traditional one bedroom flats
8. Traditional two bedroom flats } See p. 58.

HUTS AND MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

HUTS

Hut Sites	Number of occupied huts thereon
Kingwood Camp, Peppard ...	64
Whitchurch Camp ...	48
Garsons Camp, Checkendon ...	2
Crowmarsh Camp ...	—
Tanner's Farm Camp ...	25
TOTAL	139

A total of 15 huts less were in use at 31.12.54 (139) compared with 31.12.53 (154), demolitions being effected at Kingwood, Tanner's Farm, Garson's Camp and Crowmarsh—the last being cleared and the land de-requisitioned.

CARAVANS

The R.D. have licensed two caravan sites, as follows.

- (1) Harvey's Nurseries, Emmer Green, for 75 caravans.
- (2) Swiss Farm, Henley, for 26 caravans. (For holiday use only.)

These allocations have both been fully taken up, giving a total of 101 vans.

In addition to the above licensed sites, the council have issued 94 individual licences for caravans, renewable annually as long as they prove satisfactory and equally terminable where they prove unsatisfactory.

The R.D. has thus a total of 195 caravans licensed for human occupation, and under its constant supervision.

TOTAL MOVEABLE DWELLINGS (huts plus caravans) ... 334

OVERCROWDING AND THE DEMAND FOR NEW HOUSING.

There are 106 families known to be without separate homes and in addition other cases are known in which families are occupying accommodation too small for them.

At the end of 1954 there were 401 applications for Council Houses outstanding. 106 of them were from the people without separate homes, and 128 from occupants of huts converted by the council into living accommodation.

There is no waiting list for private enterprise building.

INSPECTIONS MADE, NOTICES SERVED AND ORDERS MADE

	Under the Public Health Act, 1936	Under the Housing Act, 1936
Inspections made ...	450	750
Notices served		
Informal ...	54	33
Statutory ...	7	22
Orders made		
Closing Orders ...	—	3
Demolition Orders ...	—	—
Undertakings not to relet ...	—	2

SECTION E
FOOD INSPECTION

There are two licensed slaughterhouses in the district, both small private ones at the rear of butchers' shops. No regular slaughtering has, however, taken place, but there is occasional slaughtering of cottagers' pigs. Inspection of meat and meat products is carried out at the six butchers' shops in the district during the course of routine visits.

FOOD INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

- (a) *Meat and Meat Products*
12 lbs. beef.
4 lbs. corned beef (tinned) ... Decomposition.
- (b) *Dairy Produce*
11 tins evaporated milk.
- (c) *Miscellaneous*
11 tins of tinned fruit, vegetables, fish, etc.

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS

There are four registered distributors of milk with dairy premises (other than farms) within the rural district.
The following dealers and supplementary licences were also issued under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations:

(a)	Dealers	Licences granted for Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	7
(b)	„	„ „ „ „ Pasteurized „	...	5
(c)	Supplementary	„ „ Tuberculin Tested „	...	4
(d)	„	„ „ „ Pasteurized „	...	4

ICE CREAM

37 premises are registered for the sale and storage of ice cream and one for its sale and manufacture.
The following samples were taken during the course of the year:

	Grade One	Two	Three	Four	All Grades
No. of samples	13	Nil	1	1	15
Percentage (approx.) ...	86.7%	Nil	6.7%	6.7%	100%

Retailers are notified of the result of samples taken and in the case of poor results the authority, in whose area the ice cream was manufactured, is also notified. The results in 1954 were, however, outstandingly good.

FOOD POISONING. No cases were notified during the year.

SECTION F
PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS
DISEASES

Diseases notified during the year, other than Pulmonary Tuberculosis

						Number of cases notified		
						Male	Female	Total
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	5
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	16	10	26
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	17	17	34
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	4
Paratyphoid	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	—	4	4
Diphtheria (see p. 9)	...	...	...	...	...	6	—	6
Totals						44	38	82

TUBERCULOSIS

	New Cases		Transfers into the district		Transfers out of the district and patients classified as recovered		Died	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Pulmonary	12	5	3	10	6	14	—	—
Non-Pulmonary	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	13	6	3	11	6	14	—	—

FACTORIES ACTS 1937-1948

(a) *Inspections of Factories*

	Number in Register	Inspections made	Written Notices served	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 apply ...	2	2	—	—
2. Factories in which Section 7 applies ...	32	28	1	—
3. Other premises ...	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	34	30	1	—

(b) *Cases in which defects were found*

Defect	Number found	Number remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Sanitary Conveniences			
1. Unsuitable or Defective	2	1	—
2. Want of Cleanliness ...	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	2	1	—

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948—SECTION 47

Proceedings were started in one case but withdrawn on an undertaking voluntarily to enter an old person's home. The case has now returned home, resident help having been obtained, and is under the regular supervision of her doctor.

SUMMARY OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK DURING
THE YEAR 1954

Number of different premises visited	...	...	...	...	875
Number of inspections made	...	...	...	...	2550
Number of complaints received	...	...	...	...	112
Number of defects or nuisances discovered	...	...	...	...	88
Number of notices served (informal)	...	...	...	...	87
Number of notices served (statutory)	...	...	...	...	29
Number of prosecutions	...	...	...	...	Nil

NUMBER OF DEFECTS OR NUISANCES ABATED

As to Privies, W.C.s, sink wastes, etc.	...	...	...	...	21
As to Drains or Cesspools	...	...	...	...	44
As to Pigs or other animals	...	...	...	...	4
As to deficient or impure water	...	...	...	...	4
As to unclean houses	...	...	...	...	1
As to overcrowded houses	...	...	...	...	6
As to polluted ditches or streams	...	...	...	...	3
As to insanitary accumulations or deposits	...	...	...	...	3
As to other defects or nuisances	...	...	...	...	2
Number of premises disinfected	...	...	...	...	22
Number of water samples taken for analysis	...	...	...	...	17
Number of wells cleansed, repaired or deepened	...	...	...	...	—
Number of houses connected with water mains	...	...	...	...	10
Number of seizures or surrenders of unsound or diseased food	...	...	...	...	5
Number of conservancy closets replaced by W.C.s	...	...	...	...	44
Milkshops on Register (inc. Dairies)	...	...	...	...	4
Milkshops, number of inspections	...	...	...	...	15
Piggeries, number of inspections	...	...	...	...	15

RODENT CONTROL

The Council continue to operate a rodent control service, free to occupiers of domestic dwellings. A small charge is made to business premises. One full-time operator is employed, with transport facilities.

Number of Surveys carried out:

(a) Domestic Dwellings	...	...	492
(b) Agricultural Properties	...	...	56
(c) Business Premises	...	...	34

Number of Treatments 396

Number of Notices Served Nil

PLOUGHLEY RURAL DISTRICT

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

(1) PARISHES

Parish	Area (Acres)	Esti- mated Home Popula- tion Mid 1954	March 1955		
			Civilian Dwellings (including Huts, Caravans and Married Quarters)	(End of the Financial year) Rateable Value £	Product of a Penny Rate £
Ambrosden	1515	2947	199	17761	72
Ardley	1493	367	113	1777	7
Arncott	1700	3226	48	32591	130
Begbroke	602	389	109	2004	8
Blackthorn	2085	318	77	1155	4
Bletchington	2654	608	187	2442	9
Bucknell	2152	330	86	1181	4
Caversfield	1131	1510	200	5411	28
Charlton-on-Otmoor	822	302	93	925	3
Chesterton	3325	748	221	1776	7
Cottesford	1702	169	52	625	2
Fencott and Murcott	3333	143	44	490	2
Finmere	1570	299	92	1148	4
Fringford	1460	445	137	1492	6
Fritwell	1263	526	162	1817	7
Godington	1019	49	15	136	1
Gosford and Water Eaton	2360	377	116	3149	13
Hampton Gay and Poyle	1521	120	37	482	2
Hardwicke-with- Tusmore	1124	94	29	642	2
Hethe	1425	367	113	1143	4
Horton-cum-Studley	2237	267	76	942	4
Islip	2009	676	208	3301	13
Kidlington	2162	5132	1502	28290	114
Kirtlington	3582	653	201	2486	10
Launton	2818	588	181	5607	22
Lower Heyford	1765	475	146	1457	5
Merton	1932	166	51	8632	34
Middleton Stoney	1853	231	71	1333	5
Mixbury	2449	218	67	775	3
Newton Purcell-with Shelswell	1424	127	39	416	1
Noke	794	81	25	326	1
Oddington	1363	94	29	280	1
Piddington	2354	705	186	10448	41
Shipton-on-Cherwell and Thrupp	1724	449	100	3896	16
Somerton	1977	254	78	1965	8
Souldern	1976	410	126	1610	6
Stoke Lyne	3901	228	70	834	3
Stratton Audley	2308	293	90	1767	6
Upper Heyford	1628	1866	233	15488	64
Wendlebury	1154	176	54	562	2
Weston-on-the-Green	2483	498	107	2425	9
Yarnton	1762	939	289	4246	17
TOTALS	79911	27860	6091	£175233	£700

(2) SUMMARY OF PRINCIPAL STATISTICS

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	79911
Population: (Home)						
R.G.'s Mid-year Estimate (30.6.54)	...	...	...	...	...	27860
R.G.'s Mid-year Estimate (30.6.53)	...	...	...	...	...	28540
Census (April 1951)	...	...	...	...	...	24203
Number of Inhabited Dwellings (1954)	...	...	...	...	...	6091

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND OCCUPATIONS

The main occupation of the district is agriculture. There is no major industry but many people travel daily into Oxford to work, particularly at Morris Motors and the Pressed Steel Company. The largest single employer of labour in the district is the Base Ordnance Depot at Arncott. There are also a cement works and a bacon factory.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

BIRTHS

LIVE BIRTHS

		Males	Females	Persons	Live Birth Rate (per 1000 of the home population) Crude Corrected	
Ploughley						
Legitimate	...	213	186	399	14.3	
Illegitimate	...	10	9	19	0.7	
		<hr/>				
TOTAL	...	223	195	418	15.0	19.4
		<hr/>				
England and Wales	...	...	...	...		15.2

STILL BIRTHS

		Males	Females	Persons	Still Birth Rate (per 1000 total births)	
Ploughley						
Legitimate	...	2	5	7	17.2	
Illegitimate	...	—	1	1	50.0	
		<hr/>				
TOTAL	...	2	6	8	18.8	
		<hr/>				
England and Wales	...	...	...	...		23.4

DEATHS

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES

		Males	Females	Persons	Death Rate (per 1000 of the home population) Crude Corrected	
Ploughley	...	96	70	166	6.0	8.1
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	11.3	

CAUSES OF DEATH AS CLASSIFIED BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL

	Male	Female	Persons	As a per-centage of the total	Order of fre-quency
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ...					
2. Tuberculosis, other ...	1		1	.6	=15
3. Syphilitic disease ...					
4. Diphtheria ...					
5. Whooping Cough ...					
6. Meningococcal infections ...					
7. Acute Poliomyelitis ...					
8. Measles ...					
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ...					
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2		2	1.2	=13
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	5	2	7	4.2	7
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast		2	2	1.2	=13
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus					
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm ...	13	6	19	11.4	4
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...	1		1	.6	=15
16. Diabetes ...		1	1	.6	=15
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	14	13	27	16.2	=1
18. Coronary disease, angina ...	15	12	27	16.2	=1
19. Hypertension with heart disease ...		1	1	.6	=15
20. Other heart disease ...	10	15	25	15.0	3
21. Other circulatory disease ...	6	4	10	6.0	6
22. Influenza ...		1	1	.6	=15
23. Pneumonia ...	1	3	4	2.4	10
24. Bronchitis ...	4	2	6	3.6	=8
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ...	1		1	.6	=15
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...					
27. Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhoea ...					
28. Nephritis and nephrosis ...	1		1	.6	=15
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ...	1		1	.6	=15
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...					
31. Congenital malformations ...					
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	9	8	17	10.2	5
33. Motor vehicle accidents ...	3		3	1.8	=11
34. All other accidents ...	6		6	3.6	=8
35. Suicide ...	3		3	1.8	=11
36. Homicide and operations of war ...					
ALL CAUSES:	96	70	166 (*122)	99.6 (*73.2)	

* Cancer, heart disease and chest disease combined.

MATERNAL MORTALITY

There were no deaths from puerperal causes during the year. In England and Wales the maternal mortality rate was 0.69 maternal deaths per 1000 total (live and still) births.

INFANT MORTALITY

Deaths of Infants under one year of age.

		Males	Females	Persons	Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 live births)
Ploughley					
Legitimate	...	6	3	9	22.6
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—	Nil
		<hr/>			
TOTAL	...	6	3	9	21.5
		<hr/>			
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	25.5*

NEO-NATAL MORTALITY

Deaths of infants under four weeks of age

		Males	Females	Persons	Neonatal Mortality Rate (per 1000 live births)
Ploughley					
Legitimate	...	6	3	9	22.6
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—	Nil
		<hr/>			
TOTAL	...	6	3	9	21.5
		<hr/>			
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	17.7* (Provisional Figure)

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES
FOR THE AREA

Laboratory Work. This is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Walton Street, Oxford, under the supervision of Dr. R. L. Vollum.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply. The Oxford City Northern Water Scheme is still in abeyance and meanwhile the Council is continuing its policy of setting up independent water undertakings in villages by making use of local sources of supply.
 (continued on p. 92)

(*per 1000 *related* live births, i.e. births occurring, not during the calendar year 1954 but during the twelve months in which the babies who died were themselves born.)

WATER SUPPLY

Parish	Source of Supply	Quantity	Quality	New Works				Remarks
				Proposed for the Future	In preparation	Under construction	Recently constructed	
Ambrosden ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	Bucks. Water Board	
Ardley ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	
Arncott ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Bucks. Water Board.
Begbroke ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Oxford City Water Undertaking.
Blackthorn ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Bucks. Water Board, and Council bore-hole as an alternative source of supply.
Bletchington ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Council bore-hole.
Bucknell ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	
Caversfield ...	Wells and private mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Water from Bicester U.D.C. and R.A.F. mains.
Charlton-on-Otmoor	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Oxford City water.
Chesterton ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Council bore-hole

Cottesford ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	Council bore-hole.
Fencott and Murcott	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	Oxford City Water.
Finnmere ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	Water from Bucks. Water Board.
Fringford ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	Council bore-hole.
Fritwell ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	Council bore-hole.
Godington ...	Mains & wells	Fair	Good	—	—	—	Private supply from farm bore-hole.
Gosford and Water Eaton	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	Oxford City Water Undertaking.
Hampton Gay and Poyle	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	Oxford City Water Undertaking.
Hardwick with Tusmore	Mains and wells	Good	Good	—	—	—	Private supply from bore-hole.
Hethe ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	Main supply from bore-hole	
Horton-cum-Studley	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	Bucks. Water Board and supply from springs controlled by Council.
Islip ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	Oxford City Water Undertaking.
Kidlington ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	Oxford City Water Undertaking.
Kirtlington ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	Supply from Council bore-hole.

(Continued overleaf)

WATER SUPPLY (Continued)

Parish	Source of Supply	Quantity	Quality	New Works				Remarks
				Future	In Preparation	Under Construction	Recently Constructed	
Launton ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Council bore-hole.
Lower Heyford ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	Main Supply from bore-hole	
Merton ...	Wells	Good	Fair	—	—	Bucks. Water Board	—	Supply from Bucks. Water Board via W.D. mains.
Middleton Stoney ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Water supply from R.A.F. via Bicester U.D.C. Scheme administered by Jersey Estate.
Mixbury ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Bucks. Water Board via Brackley R.D.C.
Newton Purcell with Shelswell	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	Bucks. Water Board	
Noke ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Oxford City area of supply.
Oddington ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Oxford City water.
Piddington ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Bucks. Water Board via W.D. mains.
Shipton-on-Cherwell	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Supply from private bore-hole—and Oxford City.

Somerton	...	...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	Council bore-hole.
Souldern	...	...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	Council bore-hole.
Stoke Lyne	...	...	Mains and wells	Good	Good	—	—	—	Council bore-hole.
Stratton Audley	...	...	Mains and wells	Good	Good	—	—	Main supply from Council bore-hole to be sunk	Supply from Council's bore-hole.
Thrupp	...	...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	Oxford City Water Undertaking.
Upper Heyford	...	...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	Council bore-hole.
Wendlebury	...	...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	Extension of Chesterton Scheme.
Weston-on-the-Green			Mains and wells	Good	Good	—	—	Main supply from Chesterton	Extension of Chesterton Scheme.
Yarnton	...	...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	Oxford City Water Undertaking.

(continued from p. 87)

This the Council is doing in order to avoid the delay which would be inevitable were action postponed until a more comprehensive scheme were practicable. The individual undertakings are planned so that they can later form part of a larger undertaking if need be.

At the end of the year, of the 6091 occupied dwellings (which include married quarters, huts and caravans) 4678 had a piped main water supply (4638 direct into the house and 40 to a stand pipe) and 1413 were dependent upon wells, the water in 1232 cases being piped into the house. 511 houses were connected to a main water supply during the year.

During the year 72 specimens of water were examined. The results of these examinations are given below.

Main Water Supply Ministry of Health Classification				Well Water Supply (including piped into house)		
Class 1 Highly Satisfactory	Class 2 Satis- factory	Class 3 Sus- picious	Class 4 Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Slightly Con- tamin- ated	Grossly Con- tamin- ated
22	8	—	—	7	24	11
Per cent: 73	27	—	—	17	57	26

Nine other samples were taken from main supplies after the laying of the mains and were found to be unsatisfactory, but before water was allowed to be used further samples were obtained and proved satis-
factory.

The details of the water supply of each parish are summarized in the table given on pp. 88-91. Military establishments are *not* included.

Water and Sewer Connections:

The Table below shows the number of old and new Premises con-
nected to a main water supply, and the Council's sewer during the year. These figures do not include military establishments:

<i>Parish</i>				<i>Main water supply</i>	<i>Council's sewer</i>
Ambrosden	...	...	...	11	—
Ardley	...	...	...	17	—
Arncott	...	...	...	3	—
Begbroke	...	...	...	10	—
Blackthorn	...	...	...	6	—
Bletchington	...	...	...	12	—

Bucknell	...	...	...	2	—
Charlton-on-Otmoor			...	3	—
Chesterton		...	...	13	—
Cottesford	...	...	...	2	—
Fencott and Murcott			...	1	—
Finmere	...	...	...	1	—
Fringford	...	...	...	6	—
Fritwell	...	...	...	6	2
Gosford and Water Eaton				8	5
Hampton Gay and Poyle				1	—
Hethe	...	...	...	28	—
Islip	...	...	...	2	1
Kidlington		...	...	273	278
Kirtlington		...	...	—	2
Launton	...	...	...	8	—
Lower Heyford	...	...		22	1
Mixbury	...	...	...	5	—
Newton Purcell	...	...		6	—
Shipton-on-Cherwell			...	24	—
Souldern	...	...	...	5	—
Upper Heyford	...	...		8	—
Wendlebury		...	...	6	—
Weston-on-the-Green			...	17	—
Yarnton	...	...	...	5	—
				—	—
				511	289
				—	—

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE—NEW WORKS

Parish	New Works				Remarks
	Proposed for the Future	In preparation	Under construction	Recently constructed	
Ambrosden ...	To W.D. system.	—	—	—	Negotiations in progress with W.D. to accept sewage into military system.
Arncott ...	To W.D. system.	—	—	—	As Ambrosden.
Blackthorn ...	To W.D. system.	—	—	—	As Ambrosden.
Bletchington ...	—	Scheme being prepared.	—	—	—
Islip ...	—	Small extension of existing system.	—	—	—
Kirtlington ...	—	Scheme being prepared.	—	—	—
Lower Heyford ...	—	—	—	Improvement to existing works.	—
Merton ...	To W.D. system.	—	—	—	As Ambrosden.
Mixbury ...	Village scheme to be prepared.	—	—	—	—
Souldern ...	Village scheme to be prepared.	—	—	—	—
Yarnton ...	—	Combined scheme with Kidlington and Gosford and Water Eaton.	—	—	—

SECTION D
HOUSING

(a) During 1954

Houses Erected by										
Parish	Local Authority									Private Enterprise
	Number	Analysis by Type*								Number
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
Begbroke	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9
Blackthorn	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Bletchington	4	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bucknell	11	1	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Finnere	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Gosf'd & Water Eaton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Hampton Poyle	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Hethe	8	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Islip	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Kidlington	65	8	8	—	—	—	—	—	49	191
Kirtlington	5	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Launton	10	4	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Lower Heyford	9	2	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Middleton Stoney	4	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Shipton-on-Cherwell	24	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	20	—
TOTALS	140	15	52	—	—	—	—	4	69	212

- *Definitions of Types:
1. Traditional two bedroom, non-parlour.
 2. Traditional three bedroom, parlour.
 3. Traditional three bedroom, non-parlour.
 4. Pre-fab, three bedroom, parlour (Airey houses).
 5. Traditional bungalows.
 6. Non-traditional bungalows.
 7. Non-traditional two bedroom.
 8. Non-traditional three bedroom.

(b) During 1946-54: see table on pages 98 and 99.

Huts and Moveable Dwellings

Number of hut sites	...	...	...	...	...	3
Number of occupied huts	...	...	...	...	...	28
Number of caravans sites licensed	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Number of licences issued to station caravans	...	...	...	...	...	79

Proposed Caravan Site at Merton Gunpark

The establishment of this site has not proved nearly as easy as was hoped. The Ministry ruled that, before loan sanction could be granted for the acquisition of the land, it was necessary for an amendment to be made in the County Development Plan to include the establishment of the proposed site. This amendment has now been made and submitted to the Ministry for approval.

The War Department have expressed themselves willing to grant the lease but with one very important proviso—that the R.D. may be required to quit the site in 7 days 'should an emergency arise'. It remains still to define the meaning of 'emergency'. It is possible to envisage circumstances, an alteration in the armaments programme for instance or even a redistribution within the country of existing armaments, which might be regarded by the W.D. though not by the R.D. as an emergency. The W.D. have, however, been reasonable throughout and it is not expected that insuperable difficulty will be encountered on this score.

It should be stressed that the primary object of the proposed site is to accommodate the workers at nearby military establishments and to help army personnel who have hitherto often been paying disproportionate prices for existing cottages to the detriment of local house-hunters or have applied to station caravans by individual licences often on unsuitable sites. The question of remoteness of the site and lack of transport facilities matters less than normally.

It may well be that Merton may act as a pilot scheme and the experience gained will decide the R.D. as to whether the running of sites by local authorities is desirable or not.

Overcrowding and the demand for new housing. There appears to be little overcrowding by the standards of the Housing Act, 1936, but these are very low and too many families are obliged to live and to sleep in very inadequate accommodation.

At the end of 1954 there were 475 applications for Council houses outstanding.

HOUSING

Since 1949 a great deal of work of the Public Health Department has been on the demolition and reconstruction of the large number of sub-standard houses in the area. Following the Rural Housing Survey, most of these houses have now been dealt with, and where the owners have not submitted schemes of repair Demolition Orders have been made. Other cottages have been reconstructed and put in a reasonable state of repair, some have been vacated and used as agricultural and other stores.

During the six years 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953 and 1954, 249 Demolition Orders have been served, 90 Undertakings have been accepted to make premises fit, 52 Undertakings have been accepted not to use for human habitation, 88 premises have been demolished, and 53 premises have been made fit.

The work is still continuing, and this has resulted in a great improvement in the housing conditions of the area, but there is no need for complacency for unless some of the premises, which were on the borderline when the Survey was made, are brought up to date they will deteriorate and it may be necessary to take drastic action later.

HOUSING ACT, 1949 and 1952, IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Number of applications received	...	...	...	41
Number of applications approved by L.A.	...	...	...	35
Number of applications withdrawn or rejected by L.A.				6

The figures given above show an increased number of applications, and applications received during the beginning of 1955 are encouraging.

Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:

1.	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for Housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	1081
	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	3334
2.	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-heading 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1936	...	...	543
	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	824
3.	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	39
4.	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	735

Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal Notice:

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or its Officers	159
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Action under Statutory Powers during the year:

(A) *Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:*

Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	...	...	—
Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice:—					
(a) By owners	...	...	...	...	11
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...			—

(B) *Proceedings under Public Health Acts:*

Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be repaired	...	...	17
Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:			
(a) By owners	...	...	15
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	2

(continued on p. 100)

[illegible]

(continued from p. 97)

(C) <i>Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:</i>	
Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	26
Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	26
Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Clearance Orders	—
(D) <i>Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:</i>	
Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	—
Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	—
(E) <i>Proceedings under Sections 10 and 11 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953:</i>	
Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	—
<i>Housing Act, 1936—Part IV.—Overcrowding:</i>	
Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	5
Number of families dwelling therein	7
Number of persons dwelling therein	43
Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	—
Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	6
Number of persons concerned in such cases	39
Number of cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority had taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	—

SECTION E
FOOD INSPECTION

Following the de-rationing of Meat in July 1954, the Council considered applications for the re-licencing of Slaughter-houses in the area.

After extensive alterations and improvements, five licences were granted and private slaughtering was again possible, giving an improved quality of meat to the local inhabitants. To give full protection to the public a 100 per cent inspection of all animals killed is made, but some of the slaughtering takes place in the late evenings and at week-ends, entailing several hours' overtime each week by the Meat Inspectors, and it is hoped that the promised legislation to control this will soon materialize.

After prolonged negotiations an agricultural building was allowed to be converted into a slaughter-house, subject to it being constructed to conform to all requirements and to the approval of the Ministry of

Food. Although the owners were very insistent as to its usefulness and necessity, the work is proceeding very slowly with local labour at week-ends, and it may be several months before it can be licenced and used.

Meat inspection is carried out mainly at the Kidlington Bacon Factory which re-opened for slaughtering on 1st October, 1949. Periodical inspections are also made in the butchers' shops of the area.

Carcases inspected and condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	126	5	61	681	45927
Number Inspected	126	5	61	681	45927
<i>All Diseases except Tuberculosis</i>					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	2	41
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	19	1	—	14	4005
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	15%	20%	—	2.3%	8.8%
<i>Tuberculosis Only</i>					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	18
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	6	—	—	—	4546
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	4.7%	—	—	—	9.9%

CONDEMNED FOOD

The following food-stuffs were condemned and voluntarily surrendered as unfit for human consumption:

						lbs.
22	Whole carcases of pig (Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	...	3102
8	„ „ „ (Moribund)	...	...	...	...	1303
8	„ „ „ (Asphyxia)	...	...	...	...	1241
3	„ „ „ (Moribund—Asphyxia)	...	...	...	...	519
2	„ „ „ (Pyæmia)	...	...	...	...	357
2	„ „ „ (Erysipelas)	...	...	...	...	322
2	„ „ „ (Moribund—damaged in transit)	...	...	...	...	309
2	„ „ „ (Multiple Abscesses)	...	...	...	...	284
2	„ „ „ (Excessive bruising—Damaged)	...	...	...	...	260
1	„ „ „ (Multiple injuries)	...	...	...	...	179
1	„ „ „ (Septicæmic—Gastric enteritis)	...	...	...	...	162
1	„ „ „ (Multiple fractures—Moribund)	...	...	...	...	160
1	„ „ „ (Icterus)	...	...	...	...	153
1	„ „ „ (Hydraemia)	...	...	...	...	149
1	„ „ „ (Septic Pneumonia)	...	...	...	...	145
1	„ „ „ (Brucellosis of Spine)	...	...	...	...	145
1	„ „ „ (Damaged—multiple fractures)	...	...	...	...	140
1879	Pigs heads (Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	...	23657
16	„ „ „ (Abscesses)	...	...	...	...	223
2916	„ „ mesenteric fats, etc. (Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	...	58320
494	„ „ „ „ (Congestion)	...	...	...	...	9880
34	„ „ „ „ (Congestion, Abscesses, Adhesions)	...	...	...	...	680
1	„ „ „ „ (Ruptured)...	...	...	...	...	15
504	„ „ plucks (Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	...	3024

								lbs.
182	Pigs plucks (Pleurisy)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1092
570	„ lungs and hearts (Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1726
518	„ lungs (Pneumonia)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1036
618	„ hearts (Pericarditis)	...	...	...	...	...	...	309
307	„ „ (Adhesions)	...	...	...	...	...	...	153½
963	„ livers (Parasitical)...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2454
4	„ „ (Distomatosis)	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
2	„ „ (Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
1	„ „ (Biliary stasis)	...	...	...	...	...	...	2½
679	„ kidneys (Encysted)	...	...	...	...	...	...	168½
577	„ „ (Nephrosis)	...	...	...	...	...	...	145½
43	„ „ (Nephritis)	...	...	...	...	...	...	10½
2	„ „ (Congestion)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1½
3	„ gammons (Ruptured musculature)	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
3	„ „ (Fracture and bruising)	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
3	„ „ (Abscesses)	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
1	„ „ (Rheumatism)	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
2	„ „ (Blood-splashed)	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
2	„ fore-ends (Abscesses)	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
3	„ „ (Bone-tainted)	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
1	„ „ (Fracture and contusions)	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
1	„ fore-quarter (Abscesses)	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
1	„ „ (Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
3	„ hind-quarter (Fracture—bruising—haemorrhage)	...	...	...	...	...	...	109
9	„ flare fats (Inflammation)	...	...	...	...	...	...	19½
6	„ „ (Abscesses)	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
2	„ „ (Fat necrosis)	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
1	„ „ (Congestion)	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
3	„ neck-pieces (Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
1	„ „ (Abscesses)	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
2	„ shoulders (Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	...	...	...	51
3	„ necks (do.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
1	„ fore-hock (Bruising)	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
	Pigs pieces of belly (Abscesses)	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
	„ „ „ (Melanosis)	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
	„ „ back (Bruising)	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
	„ „ middle (Abscesses)	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
	„ back trimmings (Bruising)	...	...	...	...	...	...	21½
	„ skin „ (Erysipelas)	...	...	...	...	...	...	225
	„ hocks and flank trimmings (Arthritis)	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
	Leg of pork (Fracture—bruising)	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
2	Whole carcasses of Sheep (Killed straying on railway line)	...	...	...	...	...	...	79
1	„ „ „ (Pneumonia—drug drenching)	...	...	...	...	...	...	57
1	„ „ „ (Extensive bruising and haemorrhage)	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
9	Sheeps livers (Parasitical)	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
1	„ head (Damaged)	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
1	„ portion of leg (Abscesses)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
1	„ lung (Parasitical)	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
1	Ox head and tongue (Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
3	„ lungs and hearts (Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
2	„ „ „ (Pneumonia)	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
1	„ lung (Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
5	„ portions of liver (Distomatosis)	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
2	„ „ „ (Pleurisy)	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
3	„ „ „ (Abscesses)	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
1	„ „ „ (Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
2	„ „ „ (Parasitical)	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
1	„ „ „ (Cavernous angioma)	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
1	„ „ „ (Haemangioma)	...	...	...	...	...	...	2½
1	Heifers fore-leg (Fracture—bruising)	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
1	Bullocks head (Cysticercus bovis)	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
1	Cows kidney and fat (Oedema)	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
1	„ udder (Mastitis)	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
	Bacon—Middle (Decomposition)	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
	„ —Smoked Gammon (Decomposition)	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
	„ —Gammon (do.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	23½
	„ —Smoked streaky (do.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	2½
	„ —Green Back (do.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	4½

Bacon—Green Collar and Back (Bruising)	...	...	...	...	...	...	lbs.
„ —Smoked Collar (Fly-blown)	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 $\frac{3}{4}$
„ —Smoked Back (Bruised)	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 $\frac{3}{4}$
„ —Smoked Gammon (Bruising)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 $\frac{3}{4}$
„ —Smoked Gammon (Magotty and stale)	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
„ —Smoked Hock (Miscured)	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
„ —Fore-end (Bruising)	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
„ — „ (Fly-blown)	...	...	...	...	...	...	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
„ — „ (Bone-taint)	...	...	...	...	...	...	59 $\frac{1}{2}$
„ —Fore-hock (Decomposition)	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Ham (Decomposition)	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
„ (Blood-splashed)	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Leg and Chump end Loin of Pork (Decomposing)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 $\frac{1}{8}$
English rump beef (Bruising)	...	...	...	...	...	...	24 $\frac{1}{2}$
Continental sausage (Mouldy and decomposing)	...	...	...	...	...	...	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
Processed Cheese (do.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Dutch Edam Cheese (do.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	28 $\frac{3}{4}$
Margarine (Rancid)	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
„ (Damaged)	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
„ (Damaged by Mice)	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Pork Pies (Decomposition)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
							55 $\frac{1}{2}$

Tins

Dutch Luncheon Meat (Tins blown—contents decomposing)	...	...	...	...	...	...	62
Luncheon Meat (do.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Mexican Meat and Gravy (do.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
Danish Pork Brawn (do.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
French Corred Beef (do.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Australian Corned Beef (do.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
New Zealand Corned Beef (do.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Australian Lamb Tongues (do.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Irish Stewed Steak (do.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Steak and Kidney Pudding (do.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Minced Luncheon Meat (Tin pierced—contents decomposing)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dutch Ox Tongues (do.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pork Luncheon Meat (do.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Canned Corned Mutton (Tins blown—pierced)	...	...	...	...	...	...	158
Minced Meat Loaf (Tins blown—damaged)	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Italian Tomatoes (Tins blown)	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Evaporated Milk (Tins damaged—contents leaking)	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Irish Stew (Tins crushed—contents decomposing)	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Corned Beef with Cereals (Tins rusted)	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Spaghetti-in-Tomato Sauce (Tins crushed)	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
French Brisket of Beef (decomposing)	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGNS

Number and Type of Food Premises in the area:

Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	47
Public Houses	...	...	...	...	...	57
Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	13
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	4
Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	1
Off-licence Premises	...	...	...	...	...	3
Fried Fish Shop	...	...	...	...	...	1
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	4
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	6
Cafés	...	...	...	...	...	9
Bacon Factory	...	...	...	...	...	1
Grain Drying Depot	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ministry of Food Buffer Depot	...	...	...	...	...	1

Number and Type of Food Premises in the area Registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938:

No.	Purpose	No. of Inspections made
52	Sale of Ice-cream	139
5	Preparation or Manufacture of Sausages ...	75
1	Curing bacon	51
1	Preparation of Fish by any process of cooking ...	12

Method of disposal of Condemned Food. Condemned meat is stained and processed for fertilisers, manures and animal feeding. Other condemned food is burnt and/or buried.

Hotels and Restaurants. All restaurants, hotel kitchens and cafés in the district have been regularly inspected during the year and some improvements effected as a result. The standard of hygiene has been raised but there is room for further improvement.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS, 1938 and 1944

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949

Distributors of Milk

Six persons have been registered as distributors of Milk.

Premises used as a Dairy (not being a Dairy Farm)

Five premises have been registered as Dairies (not being Dairy Farms).

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurized and Sterilized Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Supplementary Licences issued authorizing the use of the special designation 'Pasteurized'...	12
Supplementary Licence ... 'Sterilized'	1
Dealers' Licences issued authorizing the use of the special designation 'Pasteurized' ...	8

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949

Supplementary Licences issued authorizing the use of the special designation 'Tuberculin Tested' ...	7
Dealers' Licences issued authorizing the use of the special designation 'Tuberculin Tested' ...	4

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936-1946

Three samples of 'Pasteurized' Milk have been taken, and reported as being satisfactory.

Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936

No samples of 'Tuberculin Tested' Milk have been taken.

Ice-Cream. The system of sampling introduced in July 1949 was continued during the year and 93 samples of ice-cream taken from the 52 premises registered for the sale of ice-cream were submitted for laboratory examination. The samples were graded as follows:

Grade	1	2	3	4	All Grades
No. of Samples ...	63	21	9	—	93
Percentage	68	22	10	—	100
1953 Samples Percentage ...	72	24	3	1	100

Retailers are notified of the result of the examination of each sample taken. When the grading of a sample is below Grade 2 a copy of the Laboratory report is also sent to the Public Health Department of the area in which the ice-cream was manufactured. In certain instances copies of reports are sent to the manufacturers themselves.

In fairness to the producers, it must be stated that the present test is by no means ideal; all that can be said for it is that it is the best test devised so far.

Food Poisoning. Of six cases notified, 3 in one family, and one in another were not confirmed bacteriologically; the other two single cases were due to *S. typhimurium* the source of which could not be discovered.

SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Diseases notified during the year, other than Pulmonary Tuberculosis

					Number of cases notified		
					Male	Female	Total
Scarlet Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	7	15	22
Whooping Cough ... ..	...	...	...	...	43	40	83
Measles ... ..	...	...	...	...	6	10	16
Pneumonia ... ..	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
Dysentery ... ..	...	...	...	...	3	—	3
Erysipelas ... ..	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Food Poisoning ... ..	...	...	...	...	1	5	6
Malaria ... ..	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Totals					64	71	135

TUBERCULOSIS

	New Cases		Transfers into the district		Transfers out of the district and patients classified as recovered		Died	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Pulmonary ...	6	5	3	2	4	5	—	—
Non-Pulmonary ...	1	3	1	1	1	2	1	—
TOTAL ...	7	8	4	3	5	7	1	—

FACTORIES ACTS 1937-1948

(a) *Inspection of Factories*

	Number in Register	Inspection made	Written Notices served	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 apply ...	4	2	—	—
2. Factories in which Section 7 applies	40	14	—	—
3. Other Premises	5	—	—	—
TOTAL	49	16	—	—

(b) *Cases in which defects were found*

Defect	Number found	Number remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Sanitary Conveniences				
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or Defective	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for Sexes ...	—	—	—	—
Total	—	—	—	—

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948

Section 47

No official action was taken under this Section of this Act during the year, but following informal action three cases were admitted to hospital.

Section 50

It was not necessary for the Council to arrange the burial of any persons who died in the area during the year.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Report for the Year ended *31st March, 1955

	Type of Property					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Non-Agricultural			Total of Cols. 1, 2 & 3	Agricul- tural	TOTAL
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	All other (including Business Premises)			
1. Number of proper- ties in Local Au- thority's District	58	5007	388	5453	296	5749
2. Number of proper- ties inspected by the Local Authority as a result (a) of noti- fication (b) survey under the Preven- tion of Damage by Pest Act, 1949, or (c) otherwise	(a) —	51	—	51	3	54
	(b) 56	33	11	100	113	213
	(c) —	1081	377	1460	—	1460
3. Total inspections carried out including re-inspections	190	1275	650	2115	116	2231
4. Number of proper- ties (Sec. 2) found to be infested by rats	Major: 11	36	—	47	3	50
	Minor: 3	51	3	57	1	58
Number of proper- ties (Sec. 2) found to be seriously in- fested by mice	Major: —	—	—	—	—	—
	Minor: —	13	1	14	—	14
5. Number of infested properties (under Sec. 4) treated by Local Authority	14	77	1	92	—	92
6. Total treatments carried out including re-treatments	29	83	1	113	—	113
7. Number of Notices served under Section 4 of the Act (i) Treatment (ii) Structural Works (i.e. Proofing)	—	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Number of cases in which default action was taken by Local Authority following issue of Notice under Section 4	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Legal Proceedings	—	—	—	—	—	—
10. Number of 'block' control schemes car- ried out	—	13	—	13	—	13

*The Ministry have asked for this return to coincide with the financial year. The last return, although described as 'year ended 31st December 1953' in fact showed the figures for 15 months—i.e. January 1953—March 1954.

SUMMARY OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK DURING THE YEAR 1954

Number of complaints received	...	...	...	...	...	153
Number of Notices served (informal)	...	...	...	...	...	214
Number of Notices served (statutory)	<div> <div>Public Health Act</div> <div>Housing Act</div> </div>					17
	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Number of prosecutions	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS MADE	...	...	...	...	...	8384
Houses—Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	538
Houses—Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	543
Complaints investigated	...	...	...	...	...	153
Public Cleansing	...	...	...	...	...	746
Food Premises	...	...	...	...	...	346
Infectious Disease Cases	...	...	...	...	...	46
Caravans	...	...	...	...	...	456
Petroleum Acts	...	...	...	...	...	92
Shops Acts	...	...	...	...	...	45
Revisits to Property under notice	...	...	...	...	...	3334
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	32
Animal Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	553
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	23
Tinned Foods and other Articles of Food	...	...	...	...	...	69
Houses Disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	23
Houses Disinfested	13
Miscellaneous	249

Interviews with Owners, etc.	331
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NUMBER OF DEFECTS OR NUISANCES ABATED	...	2132
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Dwelling Houses:—

Repaired or made fit	159
Provided with Damp-Proof Course	8
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	131
Floors repaired, ventilated, etc....	...	...	...	...	...	158
Plastered walls and ceilings repaired	...	...	...	...	...	164
Windows repaired, made to open, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	143
Sashcords renewed	...	...	...	...	...	8
Food Stores provided, repaired, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	68
Stairs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	68
Skirting boards provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	42
Doors repaired, rehung or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	80
Firegrates repaired, reset or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	68
Chimneys or Chimney stacks repaired	...	...	...	...	...	84
New sinks provided and fixed	...	...	...	...	...	146
Sink wastes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	26

Water supply provided inside houses	...	...	...	...	161
Wash Coppers repaired or provided	...	...	...	...	37
Copper firesets repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	9
External walls pointed	...	...	...	...	120
Ovens repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	15
External walls cemented or tarred	...	...	...	...	6
Eaves gutters and R.W.P. renewed	...	...	...	...	74
Yards and Passages paved and drained	...	...	...	...	36
Yard paving repaired	...	...	...	...	32

Drains, Water Closets and Ashes Accommodation:—

Obstructed drains cleansed	...	...	...	...	13
Obstructed W.C.'s cleansed	...	...	...	...	1
Yard gullies provided and connected to drains	...	...	...	...	20
Drains repaired or reconstructed	...	...	...	...	76
Inspection chamber covers renewed	...	...	...	...	28
W.C. basins renewed	...	...	...	...	14
W.C. cisterns repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	3
Closet structures repaired	...	...	...	...	19
Ashpits abolished	...	...	...	...	—
Dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	70

Other Nuisances:—

Animals improperly kept	...	...	...	...	3
Accumulations	...	...	...	...	4
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	38

